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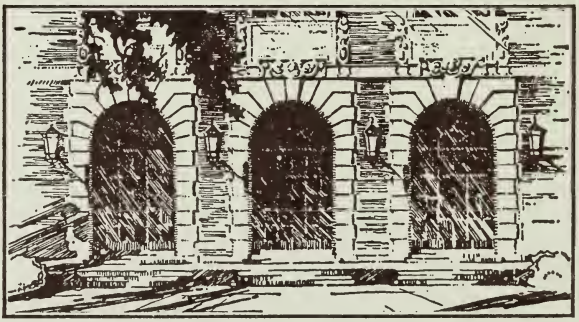

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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED BY

The late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,
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PART I—REPORTS.

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1891.

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PREFACE.

By an act approved June 23, 1874, Congress made an appropriation "to enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, both of the Union and Confederate Armies," and directed him "to have copied for the Public Printer all reports, letters, telegrams, and general orders not heretofore copied or printed, and properly arranged in chronological order."

Appropriations for continuing such preparation have been made from time to time, and the act approved June 16, 1880, has provided "for the printing and binding, under direction of the Secretary of War, of 10,000 copies of a compilation of the Official Records (Union and Confederate) of the War of the Rebellion, so far as the same may be ready for publication, during the fiscal year"; and that "of said number 7,000 copies shall be for the use of the House of Representatives, 2,000 copies for the use of the Senate, and 1,000 copies for the use of the Executive Departments."*

* Volumes I to V distributed under act approved June 16, 1880. The act approved August 7, 1882, provides that—

"The volumes of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion shall be distributed as follows: One thousand copies to the Executive Departments, as now provided by law. One thousand copies for distribution by the Secretary of War among officers of the Army and contributors to the work. Eight thousand three hundred copies shall be sent by the Secretary of War to such libraries, organizations, and individuals as may be designated by the Senators, Representatives, and Delegates of the Forty-seventh Congress. Each Senator shall designate not exceeding twenty-six, and each Representative and Delegate not exceeding twenty-one of such addresses, and the volumes shall be sent thereto from time to time as they are published, until the publication is completed. Senators, Representatives, and Delegates shall inform the Secretary of War in each case how many volumes of those heretofore published they have forwarded to such addresses. The remaining copies of the eleven thousand to be published, and all sets that may not be ordered to be distributed as provided herein, shall be sold by the Secretary of War for cost of publication with ten per cent. added thereto, and the proceeds of such sale shall be covered into the Treasury. If two or more sets of said volumes are ordered to the same address the Secretary of War shall inform the Senators, Representatives, or Delegates, who have designated the same, who thereupon may designate other libraries, organizations, or individuals. The Secretary of War shall report to the first session of the Forty-eighth Congress what volumes of the series heretofore published have not been furnished to such libraries, organizations, and individuals. He shall also inform distributees at whose instance the volumes are sent."

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This compilation will be the first general publication of the military records of the war, and will embrace all official documents that can be obtained by the compiler, and that appear to be of any historical value.

The publication will present the records in the following order of arrangement:

The **1st Series** will embrace the formal reports, both Union and Confederate, of the first seizures of United States property in the Southern States, and of all military operations in the field, with the correspondence, orders, and returns relating specially thereto, and, as proposed, is to be accompanied by an Atlas.

In this series the reports will be arranged according to the campaigns and several theaters of operations (in the chronological order of the events), and the Union reports of any event will, as a rule, be immediately followed by the Confederate accounts. The correspondence, &c., not embraced in the "reports" proper will follow (first Union and next Confederate) in chronological order.

The **2d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns, Union and Confederate, relating to prisoners of war, and (so far as the military authorities were concerned) to State or political prisoners.

The **3d Series** will contain the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Union authorities (embracing their correspondence with the Confederate officials) not relating specially to the subjects of the *first* and *second* series. It will set forth the annual and special reports of the Secretary of War, of the General-in-Chief, and of the chiefs of the several staff corps and departments; the calls for troops, and the correspondence between the national and the several State authorities.

The **4th Series** will exhibit the correspondence, orders, reports, and returns of the Confederate authorities, similar to that indicated for the Union officials, as of the *third* series, but excluding the correspondence between the Union and Confederate authorities given in that series.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
Major Third Art., and Bvt. Lieut. Col.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *August 23*, 1880.

Approved:

ALEX. RAMSEY,
Secretary of War.

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1864.

	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
Jan	....	....	....	....	....	1	2
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	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
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Aug	....	1	2	3	4	5	6
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Dec	....	....	....	....	1	2	3
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	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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January 1–June 30, 1864.

PART I.

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Jan. 1, 1864.—The Department of Kansas re-established.‡
1–30, 1864.—Operations in Northeastern Arkansas, including skirmishes at Lunenburg, Sylamore, and on Sylamore Creek.
3, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, assumes command of the U. S. forces on the Rio Grande, Tex.
5, 1864.—Skirmish on the Pecos River, near Fort Sumner, N. Mex.
6, 1864.—The Department of Arkansas and Seventh Army Corps constituted.
Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Defenses of New Orleans.
6–21, 1864.—Expedition against the Navajo Indians.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Martin's Creek, Ark.
8–9, 1864.—Bombardment of Confederate works at the mouth of Caney Bayou, Tex.
10, 1864.—Skirmish at King's River, Ark.
12–13, 1864.—Affair at Matamoras, Mexico.
13–14, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff to Monticello, Ark.
14, 1864.—Skirmish in Bollinger County, Mo.
15–17, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson County, Mo.
16, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Department of Kansas.

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*Including Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Indian Territory, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Texas, and the Department of the Northwest, embracing Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

†Of some of the minor conflicts noted in this Summary, no circumstantial reports are on file. All such are designated in the Index.

‡It had been merged into the Department of the Missouri, September 19, 1862.

Jan. 16–Feb. 15, 1864.—Operations in Northwestern Arkansas.
17, 1864.—Skirmish at Lewisburg, Ark.
17–19, 1864.—Scouts from Brownsville, Ark.
19, 1864.—Skirmish at Branchville, Ark.
21–25, 1864.—Reconnaissance on Matagorda Peninsula, Tex.
Scout from Waldron to Baker's Springs, Ark., and skirmish.
23, 1864.—Affair at Cowskin Bottom, Newton County, Mo.
23–27, 1864.—Scout from Patterson, Mo., to Cherokee Bay, Ark.
25, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Little Missouri River and at Sulphur Springs, Ark.
26, 1864.—Affair in the San Andres Mountains, N. Mex.
Skirmish at Caddo Gap, Ark.
28, 1864.—Skirmish at Dallas, Ark.
29–Feb. 23, 1864.—Expedition from Vicksburg, Miss., to Waterproof, La., and skirmishes.*
30, 1864.—Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield in command of the Department of the Missouri.
Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Seventh Army Corps and Department of Arkansas.
30–Feb. 3, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to near Searcy Landing, Ark.

Feb. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Waldron, Ark.
1–3, 1864.—Expedition from Madisonville to Franklinton, La., and vicinity.
1–24, 1864.—Operations in the Indian Territory.
1–Mar. 1, 1864.—Scouts from Rolla, Mo.
1–Mar. 7, 1864.—Operations in New Mexico and Arizona.
2, 1864.—Skirmish on Halcolm Island, Mo.
3–6, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City, La.
4, 1864.—Skirmish at Columbia, La.
Skirmish at Hot Springs, Ark.
Skirmish at Mountain Fork, Ark.
Skirmish at Rolling Prairie, Ark.
4–8, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up White River, Ark.
5, 1864.—Skirmish near Cape Girardeau, Mo.
5–17, 1864.—Scout from Houston, Mo., into Arkansas, with skirmishes.
6–10, 1864.—Scout in the Sni Hills, Mo.
7, 1864.—Affair at the mouth of Caney Bayou, Tex.
Skirmish at Vidalia, La.
8, 1864.—Skirmish at Donaldsonville, La.
9, 1864.—Skirmish at Morgan's Mill, Spring River, Ark.
Skirmish at Tomahawk Gap, Ark.
Skirmish at New River, La.
Skirmish in White County, Ark.
10, 1864.—Skirmish at Pocahontas, Mo.
Skirmish at Lake Village, Ark.
11, 1864.—Descent upon Lamar, Tex.
Skirmishes near Madisonville, La.
12, 1864.—Affair near the California House, Mo.
Skirmish at Macon, Mo.
Skirmish at Caddo Gap, Ark.

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*For report see Vol. XXXII, Part I, p. 157.

Feb. 12-20, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville, Ark., after Freeman's command.
13-14, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up the Saint Francis River, Ark.
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Ross' Landing, Ark.
Skirmish at Scott's Farm, Washita Cove, Ark.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Saline River, Ark.
Affair near Charleston, Mo.
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Indian Bay, Ark.
Skirmish at Caddo Gap, Ark.
17, 1864.—Skirmish at Black's Mill, Ark.
Skirmish at Horse Head Creek, Ark.
18, 1864.—Affair near headwaters of the Piney, Mo.
19, 1864.—Skirmish at Grossetete, La.
Skirmish near Independence, Mo.
Capture of wagon train at Waugh's farm, near Batesville, Ark.
20-26, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up White River, Ark.
22, 1864.—Skirmish at Luna Landing, Ark.
Skirmish at Lexington, Mo.
Affair near Indianola, Tex.
22-24, 1864.—Operations about Warrensburg, Mo.
23, 1864.—Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand, U. S. Army, resumes command of the Thirteenth Army Corps.
23-Mar. 9, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., into Northern Arkansas, and skirmishes near Buffalo City (March 1) and at Bennett's Bayou (March 2).
24-29, 1864.—Scout from Camp Mimbres, N. Mex.
27, 1864.—Affair near Poplar Bluff, Mo.
Skirmish at Pinos Altos, Ariz.
29-Mar. 13, 1864.—Expedition from Rolla, Mo., to Batesville, Ark.
Mar. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Cedar Glade, Ark.
1- 4, 1864.—Operations on the Ouachita River, La., including actions at Trinity and Harrisonburg.
3, 1864.—Skirmishes at Jackson and near Baton Rouge, La.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Flint Creek, Ark.
8, 1864.—Skirmish near Baton Rouge, La.
Skirmish at Cypress Creek, La.
10-12, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to Wild Haws, Strawberry Creek, &c., Ark.
10-May 22, 1864.—The Red River (Louisiana) Campaign.
13, 1864.—Skirmish at Carrollton, Ark.
Skirmish at Los Patricios, Tex.
13-26, 1864.—Scouts from Yellville to Buffalo River, Ark.
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Hopefield, Ark.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Clarendon, Ark.
15-21, 1864.—Scout from Batesville to West Point, Grand Glaize, Searcy Landing, &c., Ark.
16, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army, supersedes Lieut. Gen. Theophilus H. Holmes in command of the District of Arkansas.
Skirmish at Santa Rosa, Tex.
16-25, 1864.—Scout from Pilot Knob, Mo., to the Arkansas line, and skirmishes.
17, 1864.—Affair at Corpus Christi, Tex.
17-Apr. 1, 1864.—Scout from Lebanon, Mo., into Northern Arkansas, and skirmishes.

Mar. 18, 1864.—Affair on Spring Creek, Ark.
Skirmish at Monticello, Ark.
19, 1864.—Attack on Laredo, Tex.
19–22, 1864.—Scout from Lexington, Mo.
19–Apr. 4, 1864.—Expedition from Rolling Prairie to Batesville, Ark., with skirmishes.
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Arkadelphia, Ark.
Skirmish at Roseville Creek, Ark.
20–30, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson and La Fayette Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.
21, 1864.—Affair at Velasco, Tex.
22, 1864.—Brig. Gen. Nathan Kimball, U. S. Army, assigned to command in Department of Arkansas, north of the Arkansas River, during absence in the field of Major-General Steele.
Affair at Corpus Christi, Tex.
23–May 3, 1864.—The Camden (Arkansas) Expedition.
24, 1864.—Skirmish near Goodrich's Landing, La.
24 and 27, 1864.—Skirmish (24th) at Oil Trough Bottom and skirmish (27th) near Cross-Roads, Ark.
24–31, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to Coon Creek, Devil's Fork of Red River, &c., and skirmish (27th) near Cross-Roads, Ark.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Dover, Ark.
Skirmish near White River, Ark.
Skirmish in Van Buren County, Ark.
The Districts of Baton Rouge and La Fourche attached to the Defenses of New Orleans.
25–26, 1864.—Scout from Batesville to Fairview, Ark.
26, 1864.—Skirmish near Quitman, Ark.
27, 1864.—Affair in Deepwater Township, Mo.
27–31, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.
28, 1864.—Skirmish at Danville, Ark.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Roseville, Ark.
29–Apr. 1, 1864.—Scouts from Bellefonte, Ark.
30, 1864.—Affair near Greenton, Mo.
Apr. 1, 1864.—Action at Fitzhugh's Woods, near Augusta, Ark.
Affair near Bloomfield, Mo.
1–10, 1864.—The Pearl River (Louisiana) Expedition.
2, 1864.—Skirmish at Grossetete Bayou, La.
3, 1864.—Affair near Clarksville, Ark.
Skirmish near Fort Gibson, Ind. T.
4, 1864.—Skirmish at Charlestown, Ark.
4–5, 1864.—Skirmishes at Roseville, Ark.
5, 1864.—Skirmish at Whiteley's Mills, Ark.
5–9, 1864.—Expedition from New Madrid, Mo., and skirmishes in the swamps of Little River, near Osceola, and on Pemiscot Bayou.
6, 1864.—Affair at Prairie Du Rocher, Ill.
Skirmish at Piney Mountain, Ark.
6–7, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Arkansas River and near Prairie Grove, Ark.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Rhea's Mills, Ark.
Skirmishes near Port Hudson, La.
Skirmish at the foot of the Sierra Bonita, N. Mex.
8–23, 1864.—Expedition from Denver, Colo., to the Republican River, Kans.

Apr. 11, 1864.—Affair in Chariton County, Mo.
Skirmish at Richland Creek, Ark.
12, 1864.—Skirmish at Van Buren, Ark.
Skirmish at Fort Bisland, La.
Skirmish near Fremont's Orchard, Colo.
12–13, 1864.—Expedition up Matagorda Bay, Tex.
13, 1864.—Skirmish at Indian Bay, Ark.
Skirmish on Spring River, near Smithville, Ark.
13–14, 1864.—Skirmishes at and near Richland Creek, Ark.
14–18, 1864.—Expedition from Camp Sanborn, Colo., to Beaver Creek, Kans.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Spencer's Ranch, near Presidio del Norte, N. Mex.
Skirmish at Roseville, Ark.
Skirmish near Baton Rouge, La.
15–20, 1864.—Operations in the Indian Territory.
16, 1864.—Affair on the Osage Branch of King's River, Ark.
17, 1864.—Skirmish in Limestone Valley, Ark.
18, 1864.—Affair at Hunnewell, Mo.
19, 1864.—Skirmish on King's River, Ark.
19–20, 1864.—Skirmishes near Charleston, Mo.
20, 1864.—Attack on Jacksonport, Ark.
Skirmish at Waterproof, La.
21, 1864.—Affair at Cotton Plant, Cache River, Ark.
22, 1864.—Affair near Cotton Plant, Ark.
22–24, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonport to Augusta, Ark., and skirmish near Jacksonport.
23, 1864.—Skirmish at Independence, Mo.
24, 1864.—Skirmish at Pineville, La.
26, 1864.—Skirmish at Berwick, La.
Skirmish near Little Rock, Ark.
Skirmish in Wayne County, Mo.
27, 1864.—Skirmish at Dayton, Mo.
28–30, 1864.—Skirmishes in Johnson County, Mo.
28–May 7, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., toward Fayetteville, Ark.
29, 1864.—The Districts of West Florida and of Key West and Tortugas attached to the Defenses of New Orleans.
Skirmish in the Sni Hills, Mo.
May 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Ashton, La.
Skirmish at Ashwood Landing, La.
Skirmish at Clinton, La.
Affair at Berwick, La.
Skirmish at Lee's Creek, Ark.
Skirmish at Pine Bluff, Ark.
2, 1864.—Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin in command of the Nineteenth Army Corps.
Affair on Bee Creek, Mo.
3, 1864.—Skirmish between Bayous Redwood and Olive Branch, near Baton Rouge, La.
Skirmish at Cedar Bluffs, Colo.
3 and 5, 1864.—Skirmishes near mouth of Richland Creek, Ark.
4, 1864.—Skirmish at Ashwood Landing, La.
Skirmish in Doubtful Cañon, N. Mex.

May 5- 9, 1864.—Scout in Craighead and Lawrence Counties, Mo.
6, 1864.—Raid on Napoleonville, La.
Scout from Bloomfield, Mo.
6-10, 1864.—Operations in Calcasieu Pass, La.
6-11, 1864.—Scout from Patterson, Mo., and skirmish (8th) at Cherokee Bay, Ark.
7, 1864.—The Military Division of West Mississippi constituted, under command of Maj. Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, U. S. Army.
8, 1864.—Skirmish near Maysville, Ark.
9, 1864.—Brig. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army, resumes command of the Indian Territory.
Skirmish at Eudora Church, Ark.
9-10, 1864.—Scout from American Ranch to Cedar Bluffs, Colo.
9-June 3, 1864.—The Gila (Arizona) Expedition.
10, 1864.—Skirmish at Dardanelle, Ark.
10-25, 1864.—Scout from Pilot Knob, Mo., to Gainesville, Ark.
11, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Military Division of West Mississippi.
12, 1864.—Skirmish at Smith's Station, Nebr.
13, 1864.—Skirmish at Spavinaw, Ark.
Skirmish near Cuba, Mo.
13-31, 1864.—Shelby's operations north of the Arkansas River.
15, 1864.—Attack on Mount Pleasant Landing, La., and pursuit of the Confederates.
16, 1864.—Action at Big Bushes, near Smoky Hill, Kans.
Skirmish near Drywood Creek, Mo.
Affair at Spirit Lake, Minn.
16-25, 1864.—Expedition from Patterson to Bloomfield and Pilot Knob, Mo.
17-22, 1864.—Scout in Northern Arkansas.
18, 1864.—Skirmish at Clarksville, Ark.
Affair near Searcy, Ark.
18-23, 1864.—Scouts near Neosho and Carthage, Mo.
19, 1864.—Skirmish at Fayetteville, Ark.
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Stony Point, Ark.
Skirmish at Lamar, Mo.
21, 1864.—Affair on the Blue River, Mo.
Skirmish at Pine Bluff, Ark.
22, 1864.—Capture and recapture of the Stingaree, off Brazos, Tex.
Affair near Devall's Bluff, Ark.
23-25, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg, Mo.
24, 1864.—Skirmish near Little Rock, Ark.
Skirmish near Morganza, La.
24-June 4, 1864.—Greene's operations on the west bank of the Mississippi River.
26, 1864.—Affair on Lane's Prairie, Maries County, Mo.
27, 1864.—The Department of the Missouri embraced in Military Division of West Mississippi.
Skirmish near Shanghai, Mo.
28, 1864.—Destruction of Lamar, Mo.
Skirmish at Pleasant Hill, Mo.
Skirmish at Warrensburg, Mo.

May 28, 1864.—Skirmish near Little Rock, Ark.
Skirmish at Washington, Ark.
Attack on Pest House, opposite Port Hudson, La.
29, 1864.—Skirmish on Bayou Fordoche Road, La.
Capture of wagon train at Salem, Ark.
30–31, 1864.—Skirmishes on Mill and Honey Creeks, Mo.
30–June 5, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to the Atchafalaya, La., and skirmishes near Livonia and Morganza.

June 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Arnoldsville and raid on New Market, Mo.
3, 1864.—Skirmish at Searcy, Ark.
Skirmish near Neosho, Mo.
3– 5, 1864.—Scout from Sedalia to the Blackwater River, Mo.
4, 1864.—Affair at Hudson's Crossing, Neosho River, Ind. Ter.
4–17, 1864.—Scouts from Huntersville and Clinton, Ark.
5, 1864.—Skirmish at Worthington's Landing, Ark.
5– 9, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg to the North Blackwater River, Mo.
5–12, 1864.—Scout from Forsyth through Ozark and Douglas Counties, Mo.
6, 1864.—Engagement at Old River Lake, or Lake Chicot, Ark.
Skirmish at Bealer's Ferry, Little Red River, Ark.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Sunnyside Landing, Ark.
Affair at Sikeston, Mo.
Raid on New Frankfort, Mo.
8, 1864.—Engagement at Simsport, La.
8–19, 1864.—Scout on the Osage and in its vicinity.
9, 1864.—Affair near Breckinridge, Mo.
9–14, 1864.—Scout from Cassville, Mo., to Cross Hollow, Ark.
10, 1864.—Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, C. S. Army, assigned to command of the District of West Louisiana, vice Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor, relieved.
Affair near Saint James, Mo.
Skirmish at Lewisburg, Ark.
10–15, 1864.—Scout from Sedalia to Renick's Farm, Mo.
10–23, 1864.—Operations in the District of Central Missouri.
11, 1864.—The Thirteenth Army Corps discontinued.
Skirmish at Ridgeley, Mo.
12, 1864.—Affair at Montevallo, Mo.
Raid on Calhoun, Mo.
Skirmish near Kingsville, Mo.
13–16, 1864.—Scout from Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to Weston, Mo.
14, 1864.—Raid on Melville, Mo.
Skirmish near Lexington, Mo.
14–16, 1864.—Scouts from Pleasant Hill, Mo.
15, 1864.—Skirmish near White Hare, Mo.
Union evacuation of Pass Cavallo, Tex.
15–16, 1864.—Capture of the steamer J. R. Williams, Arkansas River, and skirmish at San Bois Creek, Ind. Ter.
15–17, 1864.—Attack on Union gun-boats at Ratliff's (15th), Como (15th and 16th), and Magnolia Landings (16th), and skirmish (17th) at Newport Cross-Roads, La.

June 16, 1864.—Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds, U. S. Army, assigned to command of the forces being assembled at Morganza, La., to operate against Mobile, Ala.
Skirmish at West Point, Ark.
Affair on Big North Fork Creek, near Preston, Mo.
16–17, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to Farley, &c., Mo.
16–20, 1864.—Expedition from Kansas into Missouri.
17, 1864.—Skirmish near Columbia, Mo.
Skirmish on the Monticello Road, near Pine Bluff, Ark.
18, 1864.—Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Sherman, U. S. Army, assumes command of the Defenses of New Orleans.
18–19, 1864.—Descent on Laclede, Mo., and pursuit of the raiders.
18–20, 1864.—Scout from Kansas City, Mo.
19, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grossetete, La.
Affair at Eagle Pass, Tex.
Skirmish at Hahn's Farm, near Waldron, Ark.
Skirmish at Iron Bridge, Ind. T.
19–25, 1864.—Scout from Mount Vernon, Mo.
20–23, 1864.—Scouts from Lewisburg, Ark.
20–24, 1864.—Scout from Cassville, Mo., to Cross Hollow, Ark.
20–29, 1864.—Operations on the White River, Ark.
24, 1864.—Affair near Fayetteville, Ark.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Rancho Las Rinas, Tex.
Affair at Point Pleasant, La.
26, 1864.—Affair near the Sedalia and Marshall Road, Mo.
27–28, 1864.—Affairs near Dunksburg, Mo.
27–29, 1864.—Scout from Brownsville, Ark.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Meffleton Lodge, Ark.
Skirmish at Davis' Bend, La.

GENERAL REPORT.

Report of Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, U. S. Army, commanding Armies of the United States, of operations March, 1864–May, 1865.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., July 22, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the armies of the United States from the date of my appointment to command the same:

From an early period in the rebellion I had been impressed with the idea that active and continuous operations of all the troops that could be brought into the field, regardless of season and weather, were necessary to a speedy termination of the war. The resources of the enemy and his numerical strength were far inferior to ours; but as an offset to this, we had a vast territory, with a population hostile to the Government, to garrison, and long lines of river and railroad communications to protect, to enable us to supply the operating armies.

The armies in the East and West acted independently and without concert, like a balky team, no two ever pulling together, enabling the enemy to use to great advantage his interior lines of communication for transporting troops from east to west, re-enforcing the

army most vigorously pressed, and to furlough large numbers, during seasons of inactivity on our part, to go to their homes and do the work of producing for the support of their armies. It was a question whether our numerical strength and resources were not more than balanced by these disadvantages and the enemy's superior position.

From the first, I was firm in the conviction that no peace could be had that would be stable and conducive to the happiness of the people, both North and South, until the military power of the rebellion was entirely broken. I therefore determined, first, to use the greatest number of troops practicable against the armed force of the enemy, preventing him from using the same force at different seasons against first one and then another of our armies, and the possibility of repose for refitting and producing necessary supplies for carrying on resistance; second, to hammer continuously against the armed force of the enemy and his resources, until by mere attrition, if in no other way, there should be nothing left to him but an equal submission with the loyal section of our common country to the constitution and laws of the land. These views have been kept constantly in mind, and orders given and campaigns made to carry them out. Whether they might have been better in conception and execution is for the people, who mourn the loss of friends fallen and who have to pay the pecuniary cost, to say. All I can say is, that what I have done has been done conscientiously, to the best of my ability, and in what I conceived to be for the best interests of the whole country.

At the date when this report begins the situation of the contending forces was about as follows: The Mississippi River was strongly garrisoned by Federal troops from Saint Louis, Mo., to its mouth. The line of the Arkansas was also held, thus giving us armed possession of all west of the Mississippi, north of that stream. A few points in Southern Louisiana, not remote from the river, were held by us, together with a small garrison at and near the mouth of the Rio Grande. All the balance of the vast territory of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas was in the almost undisputed possession of the enemy, with an army of probably not less than 80,000 effective men that could have been brought into the field had there been sufficient opposition to have brought them out. The let-alone policy had demoralized this force, so that probably but little more than one-half of it was ever present in garrison at any one time. But the one-half, or 40,000 men, with the bands of guerrillas scattered through Missouri, Arkansas, and along the Mississippi River, and the disloyal character of much of the population, compelled the use of a large number of troops to keep navigation open on the river and to protect the loyal people to the west of it. To the east of the Mississippi we held substantially with the line of the Tennessee and Holston Rivers, running eastward to include nearly all of the State of Tennessee.

South of Chattanooga a small foothold had been obtained in Georgia, sufficient to protect East Tennessee from incursions from the enemy's force at Dalton, Ga. West Virginia was substantially within our lines. Virginia, with the exception of the northern border, the Potomac River, a small area about the mouth of James River covered by the troops at Norfolk and Fort Monroe, and the territory covered by the Army of the Potomac lying along the Rapidan, was in the possession of the enemy. Along the sea-coast foot-

holds had been obtained at Plymouth, Washington, and New Berne, in North Carolina; Beaufort, Folly, and Morris Islands, Hilton Head, Fort Pulaski, and Port Royal, in South Carolina; Fernandina and Saint Augustine, in Florida. Key West and Pensacola were also in our possession, while all the important ports were blockaded by the Navy. The accompanying map,* a copy of which was sent to General Sherman and other commanders in March, 1864, shows by red lines the territory occupied by us at the beginning of the rebellion and at the opening of the campaign of 1864, while those in blue are the lines which it was proposed to occupy.

Behind the Union lines there were many bands of guerrillas and a large population disloyal to the Government, making it necessary to guard every foot of road or river used in supplying our armies. In the South a reign of military despotism prevailed, which made every man and boy capable of bearing arms a soldier, and those who could not bear arms in the field acted as provosts for collecting deserters and returning them. This enabled the enemy to bring almost his entire strength into the field.

The enemy had concentrated the bulk of his forces east of the Mississippi into two armies, commanded by Generals R. E. Lee and J. E. Johnston, his ablest and best generals. The army commanded by Lee occupied the south bank of the Rapidan, extending from Mine Run westward, strongly intrenched, covering and defending Richmond, the rebel capital, against the Army of the Potomac. The army under Johnston occupied a strongly intrenched position at Dalton, Ga., covering and defending Atlanta, Ga., a place of great importance as a railroad center, against the armies under Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman. In addition to these armies, he had a large cavalry force under Forrest in Northeast Mississippi; a considerable force, of all arms, in the Shenandoah Valley and in the western part of Virginia and extreme eastern part of Tennessee, and also confronting our sea-coast garrisons and holding blockaded ports where we had no foothold upon land. These two armies, and the cities covered and defended by them, were the main objective points of the campaign.

Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, who was appointed to the command of the Military Division of the Mississippi, embracing all the armies and territory east of the Mississippi River to the Alleghanies, and the Department of Arkansas, west of the Mississippi, had the immediate command of the armies operating against Johnston.

Maj. Gen. George G. Meade had the immediate command of the Army of the Potomac, from where I exercised general supervision of the movements of all our armies.

General Sherman was instructed† to move against Johnston's army, to break it up, and to go into the interior of the enemy's country as far as he could, inflicting all the damage he could upon their war resources; if the enemy in his front showed signs of joining Lee, to follow him up to the full extent of his ability, while I would prevent the concentration of Lee upon him if it was in the power of the Army of the Potomac to do so. More specific written instructions were not given, for the reason that I had talked over with him the plans of the campaign, and was satisfied that he understood them and would execute them to the fullest extent possible.

*To appear in Atlas. See also explanatory foot-note, Vol. XXXII, Part III, p. 261.

†See Vol. XXXII, Part III, p. 245.

Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks, then on an expedition up Red River against Shreveport, La. (which had been organized previous to my appointment to command), was notified by me on the 15th of March of the importance it was that Shreveport should be taken at the earliest possible day, and that if he found that the taking of it would occupy from ten to fifteen days' more time than General Sherman had given his troops to be absent from their command, he would send them back at the time specified by General Sherman, even if it led to the abandonment of the main object of the Red River expedition, for this force was necessary to movements east of the Mississippi; that should his expedition prove successful, he would hold Shreveport and the Red River with such force as he might deem necessary, and return the balance of his troops to the neighborhood of New Orleans, commencing no move for the further acquisition of territory unless it was to make that then held by him more easily held; that it might be a part of the spring campaign to move against Mobile; that it certainly would be if troops enough could be obtained to make it without embarrassing other movements; that New Orleans would be the point of departure for such an expedition; also, that I had directed General Steele to make a real move from Arkansas, as suggested by him (General Banks), instead of a demonstration, as Steele thought advisable.

On the 31st of March, in addition to the foregoing notification and directions, he was instructed as follows:

Maj. Gen. N. P. BANKS:

First. If successful in your expedition against Shreveport, that you turn over the defense of the Red River to General Steele and the navy.

Second. That you abandon Texas entirely, with the exception of your hold upon the Rio Grande. This can be held with 4,000 men, if they will turn their attention immediately to fortifying their positions. At least one-half of the force required for this service might be taken from the colored troops.

Third. By properly fortifying on the Mississippi River, the force to guard it from Port Hudson to New Orleans can be reduced to 10,000 men, if not to a less number. Six thousand more would then hold all the rest of the territory necessary to hold until active operations can again be resumed west of the river. According to your last returns, this would give you a force of over 30,000 effective men with which to move against Mobile. To this I expect to add 5,000 men from Missouri. If, however, you think the force here stated too small to hold the territory regarded as necessary to hold possession of, I would say concentrate at least 25,000 men of your present command for operations against Mobile. With these, and such additions as I can give you from elsewhere, lose no time in making a demonstration, to be followed by an attack upon Mobile. Two or more iron-clads will be ordered to report to Admiral Farragut. This gives him a strong naval fleet with which to co-operate. You can make your own arrangements with the admiral for his co-operation, and select your own line of approach. My own idea of the matter is that Pascagoula should be your base; but, from your long service in the Gulf Department, you will know best about the matter. It is intended that your movements shall be co-operative with movements elsewhere, and you cannot now start too soon. All I would now add is that you commence the concentration of your forces at once. Preserve a profound secrecy of what you intend doing, and start at the earliest possible moment.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Major-General Meade was instructed* that Lee's army would be his objective point; that wherever Lee went he would go also. For his movement two plans presented themselves: One to cross the Rapidan below Lee, moving by his right flank; the other above, moving by his left. Each presented advantages over the other,

*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 827.

with corresponding objections. By crossing above, Lee would be cut off from all chance of ignoring Richmond or going north on a raid. But if we took this route all we did would have to be done while the rations we started with held out; besides, it separated us from Butler, so that he could not be directed how to co-operate. If we took the other route, Brandy Station could be used as a base of supplies until another was secured on the York or James Rivers. Of these, however, it was decided to take the lower route.

The following letter of instruction was addressed to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

GENERAL: In the spring campaign, which it is desirable shall commence at as early a day as practicable, it is proposed to have co-operative action of all the armies in the field, as far as this object can be accomplished.

It will not be possible to unite our armies into two or three large ones to act as so many units, owing to the absolute necessity of holding on to the territory already taken from the enemy. But, generally speaking, concentration can be practically effected by armies moving to the interior of the enemy's country from the territory they have to guard. By such movement they interpose themselves between the enemy and the country to be guarded, thereby reducing the number necessary to guard important points, or at least occupy the attention of a part of the enemy's force, if no greater object is gained. Lee's army and Richmond being the greater objects toward which our attention must be directed in the next campaign, it is desirable to unite all the force we can against them. The necessity of covering Washington with the Army of the Potomac, and of covering your department with your army, makes it impossible to unite these forces at the beginning of any move. I propose, therefore, what comes nearest this of anything that seems practicable: The Army of the Potomac will act from its present base, Lee's army being the objective point. You will collect all the forces from your command that can be spared from garrison duty—I should say not less than 20,000 effective men—to operate on the south side of James River, Richmond being your objective point. To the force you already have will be added about 10,000 men from South Carolina, under Major-General Gillmore, who will command them in person. Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith is ordered to report to you, to command the troops sent into the field from your own department.

General Gillmore will be ordered to report to you at Fortress Monroe, with all the troops on transports, by the 18th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Should you not receive notice by that time to move, you will make such disposition of them and your other forces as you may deem best calculated to deceive the enemy as to the real move to be made.

When you are notified to move, take City Point with as much force as possible. Fortify, or rather intrench, at once, and concentrate all your troops for the field there as rapidly as you can. From City Point directions cannot be given at this time for your further movements.

The fact that has already been stated—that is, that Richmond is to be your objective point and that there is to be co-operation between your force and the Army of the Potomac—must be your guide. This indicates the necessity of your holding close to the south bank of the James River as you advance. Then, should the enemy be forced into his intrenchments in Richmond, the Army of the Potomac would follow, and by means of transports the two armies would become a unit.

All the minor details of your advance are left entirely to your direction. If, however, you think it practicable to use your cavalry south of you so as to cut the railroad about Hicksford about the time of the general advance, it would be of immense advantage.

You will please forward for my information, at the earliest practicable day, all orders, details, and instructions you may give for the execution of this order.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

On the 16th these instructions were substantially reiterated.* On the 19th [18th†], in order to secure full co-operation between his army

*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 885.
†See Vol. XXXIII, p. 904.

and that of General Meade, he was informed that I expected him to move from Fort Monroe the same day that General Meade moved from Culpeper. The exact time I was to telegraph him as soon as it was fixed, and that it would not be earlier than the 27th of April; that it was my intention to fight Lee between Culpeper and Richmond if he would stand. Should he, however, fall back into Richmond, I would follow up and make a junction with his (General Butler's) army on the James River; that, could I be certain he would be able to invest Richmond on the south side so as to have his left resting on the James above the city, I would form the junction there; that circumstances might make this course advisable anyhow; that he should use every exertion to secure footing as far up the south side of the river as he could, and as soon as possible after the receipt of orders to move; that if he could not carry the city, he should at least detain as large a force there as possible. In co-operation with the main movements against Lee and Johnston I was desirous of using all other troops necessarily kept in departments remote from the fields of immediate operations, and also those kept in the background for the protection of our extended lines between the loyal States and the armies operating against them.

A very considerable force, under command of Major-General Sigel, was so held for the protection of West Virginia and the frontiers of Maryland and Pennsylvania. While these troops could not be withdrawn to distant fields without exposing the North to invasion by comparatively small bodies of the enemy, they could act directly to their front and give better protection than if lying idle in garrison. By such movement they would either compel the enemy to detach largely for the protection of his supplies and lines of communication or he would lose them.

General Sigel was therefore directed to organize all his available force into two expeditions, to move from Beverly and Charleston, under command of Generals Ord and Crook, against the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad. Subsequently, General Ord having been relieved at his own request, General Sigel was instructed, at his own suggestion, to give up the expedition by Beverly and to form two columns, one under General Crook, on the Kanawha, numbering about 10,000 men, and one on the Shenandoah, numbering about 7,000 men. The one on the Shenandoah to assemble between Cumberland and the Shenandoah, and the infantry and artillery advanced to Cedar Creek, with such cavalry as could be made available at the moment, to threaten the enemy in the Shenandoah Valley, and advance as far as possible; while General Crook would take possession of Lewisburg with part of his force and move down the Tennessee railroad, doing as much damage as he could, destroying the New River bridge and the salt-works at Saltville, Va.*

Owing to the weather and bad condition of the roads operations were delayed until the 1st of May, when, everything being in readiness and the roads favorable, orders were given for a general movement of all the armies not later than the 4th of May. My first object being to break the military power of the rebellion and capture the enemy's important strongholds, made me desirous that General Butler should succeed in his movement against Richmond, as that would tend more than anything else, unless it were the capture of Lee's army, to accomplish this desired result in the East. If he failed, it

*See Vol. XXXIII, pp. 874, 901, and 911.

was my determination, by hard fighting, either to compel Lee to retreat or to so cripple him that he could not detach a large force to go north and still retain enough for the defense of Richmond. It was well understood by both Generals Butler and Meade before starting on the campaign that it was my intention to put both their armies south of the James River in case of failure to destroy Lee without it.

Before giving General Butler his instructions, I visited him at Fort Monroe, and in conversation pointed out the apparent importance of getting possession of Petersburg and destroying railroad communication as far south as possible. Believing, however, in the practicability of capturing Richmond unless it was re-enforced, I made that the objective point of his operations. As the Army of the Potomac was to move simultaneously with him, Lee could not detach from his army with safety, and the enemy did not have troops elsewhere to bring to the defense of the city in time to meet a rapid movement from the north of James River.

I may here state that, commanding all the armies as I did, I tried, as far as possible, to leave General Meade in independent command of the Army of the Potomac. My instructions for that army were all through him, and were general in their nature, leaving all the details and the execution to him. The campaigns that followed proved him to be the right man in the right place. His commanding always in the presence of an officer superior to him in rank has drawn from him much of that public attention that his zeal and ability entitle him to, and which he would otherwise have received.

The movement of the Army of the Potomac commenced early on the morning of the 4th of May, under the immediate direction and orders of Major-General Meade, pursuant to instructions. Before night the whole army was across the Rapidan (the Fifth and Sixth Corps crossing at Germanna Ford, and the Second Corps at United States [Ely's] Ford, the cavalry, under Major-General Sheridan, moving in advance), with the greater part of its trains, numbering about 4,000 wagons, meeting with but slight opposition. The average distance traveled by the troops that day was about 12 miles. This I regarded as a great success, and it removed from my mind the most serious apprehensions I had entertained, that of crossing the river in the face of an active, large, well-appointed, and ably commanded army, and how so large a train was to be carried through a hostile country and protected. Early on the 5th, the advance corps (the Fifth, Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren commanding) met and engaged the enemy outside his intrenchments near Mine Run. The battle raged furiously all day, the whole army being brought into the fight as fast as the corps could be got upon the field, which, considering the density of the forest and narrowness of the roads, was done with commendable promptness.

General Burnside, with the Ninth Corps, was, at the time the Army of the Potomac moved, left with the bulk of his corps at the crossing of the Rappahannock River and Alexandria railroad, holding the road back to Bull Run, with instructions not to move until he received notice that a crossing of the Rapidan was secured, but to move promptly as soon as such notice was received. This crossing he was apprised of on the afternoon of the 4th. By 6 o'clock of the morning of the 6th he was leading his corps into action near the Wilderness Tavern, some of his troops having marched a distance of over 30 miles,

crossing both the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers. Considering that a large proportion (probably two-thirds) of his command was composed of new troops, unaccustomed to marches and carrying the accouterments of a soldier, this was a remarkable march.

The battle of the Wilderness was renewed by us at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, and continued with unabated fury until darkness set in, each army holding substantially the same position that they had on the evening of the 5th. After dark the enemy made a feeble attempt to turn our right flank, capturing several hundred prisoners and creating considerable confusion. But the promptness of General Sedgwick, who was personally present and commanded that part of our line, soon reformed it and restored order. On the morning of the 7th reconnaissances showed that the enemy had fallen behind his intrenched lines, with pickets to the front, covering a part of the battle-field. From this it was evident to my mind that the two days' fighting had satisfied him of his inability to further maintain the contest in the open field, notwithstanding his advantage of position, and that he would await an attack behind his works. I therefore determined to push on and put my whole force between him and Richmond, and orders were at once issued for a movement by his right flank. On the night of the 7th the march was commenced toward Spotsylvania Court-House, the Fifth Corps moving on the most direct road. But the enemy having become apprised of our movement, and having the shorter line, was enabled to reach there first. On the 8th, General Warren met a force of the enemy which had been sent out to oppose and delay his advance, to gain time to fortify the line taken up at Spotsylvania. This force was steadily driven back on the main force, within the recently constructed works, after considerable fighting, resulting in severe loss to both sides. On the morning of the 9th, General Sheridan started on a raid against the enemy's lines of communication with Richmond. The 9th, 10th, and 11th were spent in maneuvering and fighting, without decisive results. Among the killed on the 9th was that able and distinguished soldier, Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick, commanding the Sixth Army Corps. Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright succeeded him in command. Early on the morning of the 12th a general attack was made on the enemy in position. The Second Corps, Major-General Hancock commanding, carried a salient of his line, capturing most of Johnson's division of Ewell's corps and twenty pieces of artillery. But the resistance was so obstinate that the advantage gained did not prove decisive. The 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th were consumed in maneuvering and awaiting the arrival of re-enforcements from Washington. Deeming it impracticable to make any further attack upon the enemy at Spotsylvania Court-House, orders were issued on the 18th with a view to a movement to the North Anna, to commence at 12 o'clock on the night of the 19th. Late in the afternoon of the 19th Ewell's corps came out of its works on our extreme right flank, but the attack was promptly repulsed with heavy loss. This delayed the movement to the North Anna until the night of the 21st, when it was commenced. But the enemy, again having the shorter line and being in possession of the main roads, was enabled to reach the North Anna in advance of us, and took position behind it. The Fifth Corps reached the North Anna on the afternoon of the 23d, closely followed by the Sixth Corps. The Second and Ninth Corps got up about the same time, the Second holding the railroad bridge

and the Ninth lying between that and Jericho Ford. General Warren effected a crossing the same afternoon, and got a position without much opposition. Soon after getting into position he was violently attacked, but repulsed the enemy with great slaughter. On the 25th, General Sheridan rejoined the Army of the Potomac from the raid on which he started from Spotsylvania, having destroyed the depots at Beaver Dam and Ashland Stations, four trains of cars, large supplies of rations, and many miles of railroad track; recaptured about 400 of our men on their way to Richmond as prisoners of war; met and defeated the enemy's cavalry at Yellow Tavern; carried the first line of works around Richmond (but finding the second line too strong to be carried by assault), recrossed to the north bank of the Chickahominy at Meadow Bridge, under heavy fire, and moved by a detour to Haxall's Landing, on the James River, where he communicated with General Butler. This raid had the effect of drawing off the whole of the enemy's cavalry force, making it comparatively easy to guard our trains.

General Butler moved his main force up the James River, in pursuance of instructions, on the 4th of May, General Gillmore having joined him with the Tenth Corps. At the same time he sent a force of 1,800 cavalry, by way of West Point, to form a junction with him wherever he might get a foothold, and a force of 3,000 cavalry, under General Kautz, from Suffolk, to operate against the roads south of Petersburg and Richmond. On the 5th, he occupied, without opposition, both City Point and Bermuda Hundred, his movement being a complete surprise. On the 6th, he was in position with his main army and commenced intrenching. On the 7th, he made a reconnaissance against the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, destroying a portion of it after some fighting. On the 9th, he telegraphed as follows:

Headquarters,
Near Bermuda Landing, May 9, 1864.

Hon. E. M. Stanton,
Secretary of War:

Our operations may be summed up in a few words. With 1,700 cavalry we have advanced up the Peninsula, forced the Chickahominy, and have safely brought them to our present position. These were colored cavalry, and are now holding our advance pickets toward Richmond.

General Kautz, with 3,000 cavalry from Suffolk, on the same day with our movement up James River, forced the Blackwater, burned the railroad bridge at Stony Creek, below Petersburg, cutting in two Beauregard's force at that point.

We have landed here, intrenched ourselves, destroyed many miles of railroad, and got a position which, with proper supplies, we can hold out against the whole of Lee's army. I have ordered up the supplies.

Beauregard with a large portion of his force was left south by the cutting of the railroads by Kautz. That portion which reached Petersburg under Hill I have whipped to-day, killing and wounding many and taking many prisoners, after a severe and well-contested fight.

General Grant will not be troubled with any further re-enforcements to Lee from Beauregard's force.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

On the evening of the 13th and morning of the 14th, he carried a portion of the enemy's first line of defenses at Drewry's Bluff, or Fort Darling, with small loss. The time thus consumed from the 6th lost to us the benefit of the surprise and capture of Richmond and Petersburg, enabling, as it did, Beauregard to collect his loose

forces in North and South Carolina, and bring them to the defense of those places. On the 16th, the enemy attacked General Butler in his position in front of Drewry's Bluff. He was forced back, or drew back, into his intrenchments between the forks of the James and Appomattox Rivers, the enemy intrenching strongly in his front, thus covering his railroads, the city, and all that was valuable to him. His army, therefore, though in a position of great security, was as completely shut off from further operations directly against Richmond as if it had been in a bottle strongly corked. It required but a comparatively small force of the enemy to hold it there. On the 12th, General Kautz with his cavalry was started on a raid against the Danville railroad, which he struck at Coalfield, Powhatan, and Chula Stations, destroying them, the railroad track, two freight trains, and one locomotive, together with large quantities of commissary and other stores; thence crossing to the South Side road, struck it at Wilson's, Wellsville, and Blacks and Whites Stations, destroying the road and station-houses; thence he proceeded to City Point, which he reached on the 18th. On the 19th of April, and prior to the movement of General Butler, the enemy, with a land force under General Hoke and an iron-clad ram, attacked Plymouth, N. C., commanded by General H. W. Wessells, and our gun-boats there, and after severe fighting the place was carried by assault, and the entire garrison and armament captured. The gun-boat Southfield was sunk and the Miami disabled.*

The army sent to operate against Richmond having hermetically sealed itself up at Bermuda Hundred, the enemy was enabled to bring the most, if not all, the re-enforcements brought from the south by Beauregard against the Army of the Potomac. In addition to this re-enforcement, a very considerable one, probably not less than 15,000 men, was obtained by calling in the scattered troops under Breckinridge from the western part of Virginia. The position at Bermuda Hundred was as easy to defend as it was difficult to operate from against the enemy. I determined, therefore, to bring from it all available forces, leaving enough only to secure what had been gained, and accordingly, on the 22d, I directed that they be sent forward, under command of Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, to join the Army of the Potomac. On the 24th of May, the Ninth Army Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside, was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and from this time forward constituted a portion of Major-General Meade's command.

Finding the enemy's position on the North Anna stronger than either of his previous ones, I withdrew on the night of the 26th to the north bank of the North Anna, and moved via Hanovertown to turn the enemy's position by his right. Generals Torbert and Merritt's divisions of cavalry, under Sheridan, and the Sixth Corps led the advance; crossed the Pamunkey River at Hanovertown after considerable fighting, and on the 28th the two divisions of cavalry had a severe but successful engagement with the enemy at Haw's Shop. On the 29th and 30th, we advanced, with heavy skirmishing, to the Hanover Court-House and Cold Harbor road, and developed the enemy's position north of the Chickahominy. Late on the evening of the last day the enemy came out and attacked our left, but was repulsed with very considerable loss. An attack was immediately ordered by General Meade along his whole line, which resulted

*See Vol. XXXIII, p. 278.

in driving the enemy from a part of his intrenched skirmish line. On the 31st, General Wilson's division of cavalry destroyed the railroad bridges over the South Anna River, after defeating the enemy's cavalry. General Sheridan, on the same day, reached Cold Harbor, and held it until relieved by the Sixth Corps and General Smith's command, which had just arrived, via White House, from General Butler's army.

On the 1st day of June an attack was made at 5 p. m. by the Sixth Corps and the troops under General Smith, the other corps being held in readiness to advance on the receipt of orders. This resulted in our carrying and holding the enemy's first line of works in front of the right of the Sixth Corps and in front of General Smith. During the attack the enemy made repeated assaults on each of the corps not engaged in the main attack, but were repulsed with heavy loss in every instance. That night he made several assaults to regain what he had lost in the day, but failed. The 2d was spent in getting troops into position for an attack on the 3d. On the 3d of June we again assaulted the enemy's works in the hope of driving him from his position. In this attempt our loss was heavy, while that of the enemy, I have reason to believe, was comparatively light. It was the only general attack made from the Rapidan to the James which did not inflict upon the enemy losses to compensate for our own losses. I would not be understood as saying that all previous attacks resulted in victories to our arms, or accomplished as much as I had hoped from them, but they inflicted upon the enemy severe losses, which tended in the end to the complete overthrow of the rebellion.

From the proximity of the enemy to his defenses around Richmond it was impossible by any flank movement to interpose between him and the city. I was still in a condition to either move by his left flank and invest Richmond from the north side or continue my move by his right flank to the south side of the James. While the former might have been better as a covering for Washington, yet a full survey of all the ground satisfied me that it would be impracticable to hold a line north and east of Richmond that would protect the Fredericksburg railroad—a long, vulnerable line which would exhaust much of our strength to guard, and that would have to be protected to supply the army, and would leave open to the enemy all his lines of communication on the south side of the James. My idea, from the start, had been to beat Lee's army north of Richmond if possible; then, after destroying his lines of communication north of the James River, to transfer the army to the south side and besiege Lee in Richmond or follow him south if he should retreat. After the battle of the Wilderness it was evident that the enemy deemed it of the first importance to run no risks with the army he then had. He acted purely on the defensive behind breast-works, or feebly on the offensive immediately in front of them, and where in case of repulse he could easily retire behind them. Without a greater sacrifice of life than I was willing to make, all could not be accomplished that I had designed north of Richmond. I therefore determined to continue to hold substantially the ground we then occupied, taking advantage of any favorable circumstances that might present themselves, until the cavalry could be sent to Charlottesville and Gordonsville to effectually break up the railroad connection between Richmond and the Shenandoah Valley and Lynchburg; and when the cavalry got well off to move the army to the south side of the James River, by the enemy's right flank, where I felt I could cut off all his sources of supply except by the canal.

On the 7th, two divisions of cavalry, under General Sheridan, got off on the expedition against the Virginia Central Railroad, with instructions to Hunter, whom I hoped he would meet near Charlottesville, to join his forces to Sheridan's, and after the work laid out for them was thoroughly done to join the Army of the Potomac by the route laid down in Sheridan's instructions. On the 10th of June General Butler sent a force of infantry under General Gillmore, and of cavalry under General Kautz, to capture Petersburg if possible, and destroy the railroad and common bridges across the Appomattox. The cavalry carried the works on the south side, and penetrated well in toward the town, but were forced to retire. General Gillmore, finding the works which he approached very strong, and deeming an assault impracticable, returned to Bermuda Hundred without attempting one. Attaching great importance to the possession of Petersburg, I sent back to Bermuda Hundred and City Point General Smith's command by water, via the White House, to reach there in advance of the Army of the Potomac. This was for the express purpose of securing Petersburg before the enemy, becoming aware of our intention, could re-enforce the place. The movement from Cold Harbor commenced after dark on the evening of the 12th; one division of cavalry, under General Wilson, and the Fifth Corps crossed the Chickahominy at Long Bridge, and moved out to White Oak Swamp, to cover the crossings of the other corps. The advance corps reached James River, at Wilcox's Landing and Charles City Court-House, on the night of the 13th.

During three long years the Armies of the Potomac and Northern Virginia had been confronting each other. In that time they had fought more desperate battles than it probably ever before fell to the lot of two armies to fight, without materially changing the vantage ground of either. The Southern press and people, with more shrewdness than was displayed in the North, finding that they had failed to capture Washington and march on to New York, as they had boasted they would do, assumed that they only defended their capital and Southern territory. Hence, Antietam, Gettysburg, and all other battles that had been fought were by them set down as failures on our part and victories for them. Their army believed this. It produced a morale which could only be overcome by desperate and continuous hard fighting. The battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor, bloody and terrible as they were on our side, were even more damaging to the enemy, and so crippled him as to make him wary ever after of taking the offensive. His losses in men were probably not so great, owing to the fact that we were, save in the Wilderness, almost invariably the attacking party, and when he did attack it was in the open field. The details of these battles, which for endurance and bravery on the part of the soldiery have rarely been surpassed, are given in the report of Major-General Meade, and the subordinate reports accompanying it.* During the campaign of forty-three days, from the Rapidan to James River, the army had to be supplied from an ever-shifting base by wagons, over narrow roads, through a densely wooded country, with a lack of wharves at each new base from which to conveniently discharge vessels. Too much credit cannot, therefore, be awarded to the quartermaster and commissary departments for the zeal and efficiency displayed by them. Under

*To appear in Vol. XXXVI.

the general supervision of the chief quartermaster, Brig. Gen. R. Ingalls, the trains were made to occupy all the available roads between the army and our water base, and but little difficulty was experienced in protecting them.

The movement in the Kanawha and Shenandoah Valleys, under General Sigel, commenced on the 1st of May. General Crook, who had the immediate command of the Kanawha expedition, divided his forces into two columns, giving one, composed of cavalry, to General Averell. They crossed the mountains by separate routes. Averell struck the Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, near Wytheville, on the 10th, and proceeding to New River and Christiansburg, destroyed the road, several important bridges and depots, including New River bridge, forming a junction with Crook at Union on the 15th. General Sigel moved up the Shenandoah Valley, met the enemy at New Market on the 15th, and after a severe engagement was defeated with heavy loss, and retired behind Cedar Creek. Not regarding the operations of General Sigel as satisfactory, I asked his removal from command, and Major-General Hunter was appointed to supersede him. His instructions were embraced in the following dispatches to Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, Chief of Staff of the Army:

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA., *May* 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

* * * * * * *

The enemy are evidently relying for supplies greatly on such as are brought over the branch road running through Staunton. On the whole, therefore, I think it would be better for General Hunter to move in that direction; reach Staunton and Gordonsville or Charlottesville, if he does not meet too much opposition. If he can hold at bay a force equal to his own, he will be doing good service.

* * * * * * *

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JERICHO FORD, VA., *May* 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

If Hunter can possibly get to Charlottesville and Lynchburg, he should do so, living on the country. The railroads and canal should be destroyed beyond possibility of repairs for weeks. Completing this, he could find his way back to his original base, or from about Gordonsville join this army.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

General Hunter immediately took up the offensive, and moving up the Shenandoah Valley, met the enemy on the 5th of June at Piedmont, and after a battle of ten hours routed and defeated him, capturing on the field of battle 1,500 men, 3 pieces of artillery, and 300 stand of small-arms. On the 8th of the same month he formed a junction with Crook and Averell at Staunton, from which place he moved direct on Lynchburg, via Lexington, which place he reached and invested on the 16th day of June. Up to this time he was very successful, and but for the difficulty of taking with him sufficient ordnance stores over so long a march through a hostile country he would no doubt have captured that (to the enemy) important point. The destruction of the enemy's supplies and manufactories was very great. To meet this movement under General Hunter, General Lee sent a force, perhaps equal to a corps, a part of which reached Lynchburg a short time before Hunter. After some skirmishing on the 17th and 18th, General Hunter, owing to a want of ammunition to

give battle, retired from before the place. Unfortunately, this want of ammunition left him no choice of route for his return but by way of Kanawha. This lost to us the use of his troops for several weeks from the defense of the north. Had General Hunter moved by way of Charlottesville, instead of Lexington, as his instructions contemplated, he would have been in a position to have covered the Shenandoah Valley against the enemy, should the force he met have seemed to endanger it. If it did not, he would have been within easy distance of the James River Canal, on the main line of communication between Lynchburg and the force sent for its defense. I have never taken exception to the operations of General Hunter, and I am not now disposed to find fault with him, for I have no doubt he acted within what he conceived to be the spirit of his instructions and the interests of the service. The promptitude of his movements and his gallantry should entitle him to the commendation of his country.*

To return to the Army of the Potomac: The Second Corps commenced crossing the James River on the morning of the 14th by ferry-boats at Wilcox's Landing. The laying of the pontoon bridge was completed about midnight of the 14th, and the crossing of the balance of the army was rapidly pushed forward by both bridge and ferry. After the crossing had commenced, I proceeded by a steamer to Bermuda Hundred to give the necessary orders for the immediate capture of Petersburg. The instructions to General Butler were verbal, and were for him to send General Smith immediately, that night, with all the troops he could give him without sacrificing the position he then held. I told him that I would return at once to the Army of the Potomac, hasten its crossing, and throw it forward to Petersburg by divisions as rapidly as it could be done; that we could re-enforce our armies more rapidly there than the enemy could bring troops against us. General Smith got off as directed, and confronted the enemy's pickets near Petersburg before daylight next morning, but, for some reason that I have never been able to satisfactorily understand, did not get ready to assault his main lines until near sundown. Then, with a part of his command only, he made the assault, and carried the lines northeast of Petersburg from the Appomattox River, for a distance of over 2½ miles, capturing fifteen pieces of artillery and 300 prisoners. This was about 7 p. m. Between the line thus captured and Petersburg there were no other works, and there was no evidence that the enemy had re-enforced Petersburg with a single brigade from any source. The night was clear, the moon shining brightly, and favorable to further operations. General Hancock, with two divisions of the Second Corps, reached General Smith just after dark, and offered the service of these troops as he (Smith) might wish, waiving rank to the named commander, who he naturally supposed knew best the position of affairs and what to do with the troops. But instead of taking these troops, and pushing at once into Petersburg, he requested General Hancock to relieve a part of his line in the captured works, which was done before midnight. By the time I arrived the next morning the enemy was in force. An attack was ordered to be made at 6 o'clock that evening by the troops under Smith and the Second and Ninth Corps. It required until that time for the Ninth Corps to get up and into position. The attack was made as ordered, and the fighting

*Subordinate reports of Sigel's and Hunter's operations will appear in Vol. XXXVII.

continued with but little intermission until 6 o'clock the next morning and resulted in our carrying the advance and some of the main works of the enemy to the right (our left) of those previously captured by General Smith, several pieces of artillery, and over 400 prisoners. The Fifth Corps having got up, the attacks were renewed and persisted in with great vigor on the 17th and 18th, but only resulted in forcing the enemy to an interior line, from which he could not be dislodged. The advantages in position gained by us were very great. The army then proceeded to envelop Petersburg toward the South Side Railroad, as far as possible, without attacking fortifications. On the 16th the enemy, to re-enforce Petersburg, withdrew from a part of his intrenchment in front of Bermuda Hundred, expecting, no doubt, to get troops from north of the James to take the place of those withdrawn before we could discover it. General Butler, taking advantage of this, at once moved a force on the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond. As soon as I was apprised of the advantage thus gained, to retain it I ordered two divisions of the Sixth Corps, General Wright commanding, that were embarking at Wilcox's Landing, under orders for City Point, to report to General Butler, at Bermuda Hundred, of which General Butler was notified, and the importance of holding a position in advance of his present line urged upon him.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon General Butler was forced back to the line the enemy had withdrawn from in the morning. General Wright, with his two divisions, joined General Butler on the forenoon of the 17th, the latter still holding with a strong picket-line the enemy's works. But instead of putting these divisions into the enemy's works to hold them, he permitted them to halt and rest some distance in the rear of his own line. Between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon the enemy attacked and drove in his pickets and reoccupied his old line. On the night of the 20th and morning of the 21st, a lodgment was effected by General Butler, with one brigade of infantry, on the north bank of the James, at Deep Bottom, and connected by pontoon bridge with Bermuda Hundred.

On the 19th, General Sheridan, on his return from his expedition against the Virginia Central Railroad, arrived at the White House just as the enemy's cavalry was about to attack it, and compelled it to retire. The result of this expedition was, that General Sheridan met the enemy's cavalry near Trevilian Station on the morning of the 11th of June, whom he attacked and, after an obstinate contest, drove from the field in complete rout. He left his dead and nearly all his wounded in our hands, and about 400 prisoners and several hundred horses. On the 12th, he destroyed the railroad from Trevilian Station to Louisa Court-House. This occupied until 3 p. m., when he advanced in the direction of Gordonsville. He found the enemy re-enforced by infantry, behind well-constructed rifle-pits, about 5 miles from the latter place, and too strong to successfully assault. On the extreme right, however, his reserve brigade carried the enemy's works twice, and was twice driven therefrom by infantry. Night closed the contest. Not having sufficient ammunition to continue the engagement, and his animals being without forage (the country furnishing but inferior grazing), and hearing nothing from General Hunter, he withdrew his command to the north side of the North Anna, and commenced his return march, reaching White House at the time before stated. After breaking up the depot at that place he moved to the James River, which he reached

safely after heavy fighting. He commenced crossing on the 25th, near Fort Powhatan, without further molestation, and rejoined the Army of the Potomac.

On the 22d, General Wilson, with his own division of cavalry, of the Army of the Potomac, and General Kautz's division of cavalry, of the Army of the James, moved against the enemy's railroads south of Richmond. Striking the Weldon Railroad at Reams' Station, destroying the depot and several miles of the road and the South Side road about 15 miles from Petersburg, to near Nottoway Station, where he met and defeated a force of the enemy's cavalry, he reached Burkeville Station on the afternoon of the 23d, and from there destroyed the Danville railroad to Roanoke bridge, a distance of 25 miles, where he found the enemy in force, and in a position from which he could not dislodge him. He then commenced his return march, and on the 28th met the enemy's cavalry in force at the Weldon railroad crossing of Stony Creek, where he had a severe but not decisive engagement. Thence he made a detour from his left, with a view of reaching Reams' Station, supposing it to be in our possession. At this place he was met by the enemy's cavalry, supported by infantry, and forced to retire, with the loss of his artillery and trains. In this last encounter General Kautz, with a part of his command, became separated and made his way into our lines. General Wilson, with the remainder of his force, succeeded in crossing the Nottoway River and coming in safely on our left and rear. The damage to the enemy in this expedition more than compensated for the losses we sustained. It severed all connection by railroad with Richmond for several weeks.

With a view of cutting the enemy's railroad from near Richmond to the Anna Rivers and making him wary of the situation of his army in the Shenandoah, and, in the event of failure in this, to take advantage of his necessary withdrawal of troops from Petersburg to explode a mine that had been prepared in front of the Ninth Corps and assault the enemy's lines at that place, on the night of the 26th of July the Second Corps and two divisions of the Cavalry Corps and Kautz's cavalry were crossed to the north bank of the James River and joined the force General Butler had there. On the 27th, the enemy was driven from his intrenched position, with the loss of four pieces of artillery. On the 28th, our lines were extended from Deep Bottom to New Market road, but in getting this position were attacked by the enemy in heavy force. The fighting lasted for several hours, resulting in considerable loss to both sides. The first object of this move having failed, by reason of the very large force thrown there by the enemy, I determined to take advantage of the diversion made, by assaulting Petersburg before he could get his force back there. One division of the Second Corps was withdrawn on the night of the 28th, and moved during the night to the rear of the Eighteenth Corps, to relieve that corps in the line, that it might be foot-loose in the assault to be made. The other two divisions of the Second Corps and Sheridan's cavalry were crossed over on the night of the 29th and moved in front of Petersburg. On the morning of the 30th, between 4 and 5 o'clock, the mine was sprung, blowing up a battery and most of a regiment, and the advance of the assaulting column, formed of the Ninth Corps, immediately took possession of the crater made by the explosion, and the line for some distance to the right and left of it,

and a detached line in front of it, but for some cause failed to advance promptly to the ridge beyond. Had they done this, I have every reason to believe that Petersburg would have fallen. Other troops were immediately pushed forward, but the time consumed in getting them up enabled the enemy to rally from his surprise (which had been complete) and get forces to this point for its defense. The captured line thus held being untenable and of no advantage to us, the troops were withdrawn, but not without heavy loss. Thus terminated in disaster what promised to be the most successful assault of the campaign.*

Immediately upon the enemy's ascertaining that General Hunter was retreating from Lynchburg by way of the Kanawha River, thus laying the Shenandoah Valley open for raids into Maryland and Pennsylvania, he returned northward, and moved down that valley. As soon as this movement of the enemy was ascertained, General Hunter, who had reached the Kanawha River, was directed to move his troops without delay, by river and railroad, to Harper's Ferry; but owing to the difficulty of navigation by reason of low water and breaks in the railroad, great delay was experienced in getting there. It became necessary, therefore, to find other troops to check this movement of the enemy. For this purpose the Sixth Corps was taken from the armies operating against Richmond, to which was added the Nineteenth Corps, then, fortunately, beginning to arrive in Hampton Roads from the Gulf Department, under orders issued immediately after the ascertainment of the result of the Red River expedition.

The garrisons of Baltimore and Washington were at this time made up of heavy artillery regiments, hundred-day men, and detachments from the Invalid Corps. One division, under command of General Ricketts, of the Sixth Corps, was sent to Baltimore, and the remaining two divisions of the Sixth Corps, under General Wright, were subsequently sent to Washington. On the 3d of July the enemy approached Martinsburg; General Sigel, who was in command of our forces there, retreated across the Potomac at Shepherdstown, and General Weber, commanding at Harper's Ferry, crossed the river and occupied Maryland Heights. On the 6th, the enemy occupied Hagerstown, moving a strong column toward Frederick City. General Wallace, with Ricketts' division and his own command, the latter mostly new and undisciplined troops, pushed out from Baltimore with great promptness and met the enemy in force on the Monocacy, near the crossing of the railroad bridge. His force was not sufficient to insure success, but he fought the enemy nevertheless, and although it resulted in a defeat to our arms, yet it detained the enemy and thereby served to enable General Wright to reach Washington with two divisions of the Sixth Corps, and the advance of the Nineteenth Corps before him. From Monocacy the enemy moved on Washington, his cavalry advance reaching Rockville on the evening of the 10th. On the 12th, a reconnaissance was thrown out in front of Fort Stevens, to ascertain the enemy's position and force. A severe skirmish ensued, in which we lost about 280 in killed and wounded. The enemy's loss was probably greater. He commenced retreating during the night. Learning the exact condition of affairs at Washington, I requested

*Subordinate reports of operations against Petersburg and Richmond from June 13 to July 31, 1864, will appear in Vol. XL.

by telegraph, at 11.45 p. m. on the 12th, the assignment of Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright to the command of all the troops that could be made available to operate in the field against the enemy, and directed that he should get outside of the trenches with all the force he could, and push Early to the last moment. General Wright commenced the pursuit on the 13th. On the 18th, the enemy was overtaken at Snicker's Ferry, on the Shenandoah, when a sharp skirmish occurred; and on the 20th, General Averell encountered and defeated a portion of the rebel army at Winchester, capturing four pieces of artillery and several hundred prisoners. Learning that Early was retreating south toward Lynchburg or Richmond, I directed that the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps be got back to the armies operating against Richmond, so that they might be used in a movement against Lee before the return of the troops sent by him into the valley, and that Hunter should remain in the Shenandoah Valley, keeping between any force of the enemy and Washington, acting on the defensive as much as possible. I felt that if the enemy had any notion of returning the fact would be developed before the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps could leave Washington. Subsequently the Nineteenth Corps was excepted from the order to return to the James.

About the 25th, it became evident that the enemy was again advancing upon Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the Sixth Corps, then at Washington, was ordered back to the vicinity of Harper's Ferry. The rebel force moved down the valley, and sent a raiding party into Pennsylvania, which, on the 30th, burned Chambersburg and then retreated, pursued by our cavalry, toward Cumberland. They were met and defeated by General Kelley, and with diminished numbers escaped into the mountains of West Virginia. From the time of the first raid the telegraph wires were frequently down between Washington and City Point, making it necessary to transmit messages a part of the way by boat. It took from twenty-four to thirty-six hours to get dispatches through and return answers back, so that often orders would be given, and then information would be received showing a different state of facts from those on which they were based, causing a confusion and apparent contradiction of orders that must have considerably embarrassed those who had to execute them, and rendered operations against the enemy less effective than they otherwise would have been. To remedy this evil, it was evident to my mind that some person should have the supreme command of all the forces in the Departments of West Virginia, Washington, Susquehanna, and the Middle Department, and I so recommended.

On the 2d of August I ordered General Sheridan to report in person to Major-General Halleck, Chief of Staff, at Washington, with a view to his assignment to the command of all the forces against Early. At this time the enemy was concentrated in the neighborhood of Winchester, while our forces, under General Hunter, were concentrated on the Monocacy, at the crossing of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, leaving open to the enemy Western Maryland and Southern Pennsylvania. From where I was, I hesitated to give positive orders for the movement of our forces at Monocacy, lest by so doing I should expose Washington.* Therefore, on the 4th, I left City Point to visit Hunter's command, and determine for myself

*Subordinate reports of operations in the Shenandoah Valley and Maryland up to August 3, 1864, will appear in Vol. XXXVII.

what was best to be done. On arrival there, and after consultation with General Hunter, I issued to him the following instructions:

MONOCACY BRIDGE, MD., *August* 5, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. HUNTER:

GENERAL: Concentrate all your available force without delay in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, leaving only such railroad guards and garrisons for public property as may be necessary. Use, in this concentration, the railroad, if by so doing time can be saved. From Harper's Ferry, if it is found that the enemy has moved north of the Potomac in large force, push north, following him and attacking him wherever found; follow him if driven south of the Potomac as long as it is safe to do so. If it is ascertained that the enemy has but a small force north of the Potomac, then push south with the main force, detaching under a competent commander a sufficient force to look after the raiders, and drive them to their homes. In detaching such a force, the brigade of cavalry now en route from Washington, via Rockville, may be taken into account.

There are now on the way to join you three other brigades of the best of cavalry, numbering at least 5,000 men and horses. These will be instructed, in the absence of further orders, to join you by the south side of the Potomac. One brigade will probably start to-morrow. In pushing up the Shenandoah Valley, where it is expected you will have to go first or last, it is desirable that nothing should be left to invite the enemy to return. Take all provisions, forage, and stock wanted for the use of your command; such as cannot be consumed destroy. It is not desirable that the buildings should be destroyed; they should rather be protected, but the people should be informed that so long as an army can subsist among them recurrences of these raids must be expected, and we are determined to stop them at all hazards. Bear in mind the object is to drive the enemy south, and to do this you want to keep him always in sight. Be guided in your course by the course he takes.

Make your own arrangements for supplies of all kinds, giving regular vouchers for such as will be taken from loyal citizens in the country through which you march.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

The troops were immediately put in motion, and the advance reached Halltown that night.

General Hunter having, in our conversation, expressed a willingness to be relieved from command, I telegraphed to have General Sheridan, then at Washington, sent to Harper's Ferry by the morning train, with orders to take general command of all the troops in the field, and to call on General Hunter at Monocacy, who would turn over to him my letter of instructions. I remained at Monocacy until General Sheridan arrived, on the morning of the 6th, and after a conference with him in relation to military affairs in that vicinity, I returned to City Point by way of Washington. On the 7th of August the Middle Department and the Departments of West Virginia, Washington, and Susquehanna were constituted into the "Middle Military Division," and Major-General Sheridan was assigned to temporary command of the same. Two divisions of cavalry, commanded by Generals Torbert and Wilson, were sent to Sheridan from the Army of the Potomac. The first reached him at Harper's Ferry about the 11th of August. His operations during the month of August and the fore part of September were both of an offensive and defensive character, resulting in many severe skirmishes, principally by the cavalry, in which we were generally successful, but no general engagement took place. The two armies lay in such a position—the enemy on the west bank of Opequon Creek, covering Winchester, and our forces in front of Berryville—that either could bring on a battle at any time. Defeat to us would lay open to the enemy the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania for long distances before

another army could be interposed to check him. Under these circumstances I hesitated about allowing the initiative to be taken. Finally, the use of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, which were both obstructed by the enemy, became so indispensably necessary to us, and the importance of relieving Pennsylvania and Maryland from continuously threatened invasion so great, that I determined the risk should be taken. But fearing to telegraph the order for an attack without knowing more than I did of General Sheridan's feelings as to what would be the probable result, I left City Point on the 15th of September to visit him at his headquarters, to decide, after conference with him, what should be done. I met him at Charlestown, and he pointed out so distinctly how each army lay, what he could do the moment he was authorized, and expressed such confidence of success that I saw there were but two words of instruction necessary—Go in! For the convenience of forage the teams for supplying the army were kept at Harper's Ferry. I asked him if he could get out his teams and supplies in time to make an attack on the ensuing Tuesday morning. His reply was that he could before daylight on Monday. He was off promptly to time, and I may here add that the result was such that I have never since deemed it necessary to visit General Sheridan before giving him orders. Early on the morning of the 19th, General Sheridan attacked General Early at the crossing on the Opequon Creek, and after a most sanguinary and bloody battle, lasting until 5 o'clock in the evening, defeated him with heavy loss, carrying his entire position from Opequon Creek to Winchester, capturing several thousand prisoners and five pieces of artillery. The enemy rallied and made a stand in a strong position at Fisher's Hill, where he was attacked and again defeated with heavy loss on the 20th [22d]. Sheridan pursued him with great energy through Harrisonburg, Staunton, and the gaps of the Blue Ridge. After stripping the upper valley of most of the supplies and provisions for the rebel army, he returned to Strasburg and took position on the north side of Cedar Creek.

Having received considerable re-enforcements, General Early again returned to the valley, and on the 9th of October his cavalry encountered ours near Strasburg, where the rebels were defeated with the loss of eleven pieces of artillery and 350 prisoners. On the night of the 18th, the enemy crossed the mountains which separate the branches of the Shenandoah, forded the North Fork, and early on the morning of the 19th, under cover of the darkness and the fog, surprised and turned our left flank, capturing the batteries which enfiladed our whole line. Our troops fell back with heavy loss and in much confusion, but were finally rallied between Middletown and Newtown. At this juncture General Sheridan, who was at Winchester when the battle commenced, arrived on the field, arranged his lines just in time to repulse a heavy attack of the enemy, and immediately assuming the offensive, he attacked in turn with great vigor. The enemy was defeated with great slaughter and the loss of most of his artillery and trains and the trophies he had captured in the morning. The wreck of his army escaped during the night and fled in the direction of Staunton and Lynchburg. Pursuit was made to Mount Jackson. Thus ended this, the enemy's last attempt to invade the North via the Shenandoah Valley. I was now enabled to return the Sixth Corps to the Army of the Potomac, and to send one division from Sheridan's army to the Army of the James, and another to

Savannah, Ga., to hold Sherman's new acquisitions on the sea-coast, and thus enable him to move without detaching from his force for that purpose.*

Reports from various sources led me to believe that the enemy had detached three divisions from Petersburg to re-enforce Early in the Shenandoah Valley. I therefore sent the Second Corps and Gregg's division of cavalry, of the Army of the Potomac, and a force of General Butler's army, on the night of the 13th of August, to threaten Richmond from the north side of the James, to prevent him from sending troops away, and, if possible, to draw back those sent. In this move we captured six pieces of artillery and several hundred prisoners, detained troops that were under marching orders, and ascertained that but one division (Kershaw's) of the three reputed detached had gone. The enemy having withdrawn heavily from Petersburg to resist this movement, the Fifth Corps, General Warren commanding, was moved out on the 18th and took possession of the Weldon railroad. During the day he had considerable fighting. To regain possession of the road, the enemy made repeated and desperate assaults, but was each time repulsed with great loss. On the night of the 20th, the troops on the north side of the James were withdrawn, and Hancock and Gregg returned to the front of Petersburg. On the 25th the Second Corps and Gregg's division of cavalry, while at Reams' Station destroying the railroad, were attacked, and after desperate fighting a part of our line gave way and five pieces of artillery fell into the hands of the enemy. By the 12th of September a branch railroad was completed from the City Point and Petersburg Railroad to the Weldon railroad, enabling us to supply without difficulty, in all weather, the army in front of Petersburg. The extension of our lines across the Weldon railroad compelled the enemy to so extend his that it seemed he could have but few troops north of the James for the defense of Richmond. On the night of the 28th, the Tenth Corps, Major-General Birney, and the Eighteenth Corps, Major-General Ord commanding, of General Butler's army, were crossed to the north side of the James, and advanced on the morning of the 29th, carrying the very strong fortifications and intrenchments below Chaffin's Farm, known as Fort Harrison, capturing fifteen pieces of artillery and the New Market road and intrenchments. This success was followed up by a gallant assault upon Fort Gilmer, immediately in front of the Chaffin's Farm fortifications, in which we were repulsed with heavy loss. Kautz's cavalry was pushed forward on the road to the right of this, supported by infantry, and reached the enemy's inner line, but was unable to get farther. The position captured from the enemy was so threatening to Richmond that I determined to hold it. The enemy made several desperate attempts to dislodge us, all of which were unsuccessful, and for which he paid dearly. On the morning of the 30th, General Meade sent out a reconnaissance, with a view to attacking the enemy's line if it was found sufficiently weakened by withdrawal of troops to the north side. In this reconnaissance we captured and held the enemy's works near Poplar Spring Church. In the afternoon troops moving to get to the left of the point gained were attacked by the enemy in heavy force and compelled to fall back until supported by the forces holding the captured works. Our

*Subordinate reports of operations in the Shenandoah Valley from August 4 to December 31, 1864, will appear in Vol. XLIII.

cavalry, under Gregg, was also attacked, but repulsed the enemy with great loss. On the 7th of October the enemy attacked Kautz's cavalry north of the James and drove it back with heavy loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, and the loss of all the artillery—eight or nine pieces. This he followed up by an attack on our intrenched infantry line, but was repulsed with severe slaughter. On the 13th, a reconnaissance was sent out by General Butler with a view to drive the enemy from some new works he was constructing, which resulted in very heavy loss to us.

On the 27th, the Army of the Potomac, leaving only sufficient men to hold its fortified line, moved by the enemy's right flank. The Second Corps, followed by two divisions of the Fifth Corps, with the cavalry in advance and covering our left flank, forced a passage of Hatcher's Run, and moved up the south side of it toward the South Side Railroad, until the Second Corps and part of the cavalry reached the Boydton plank road, where it crosses Hatcher's Run. At this point we were 6 miles distant from the South Side Railroad, which I had hoped by this movement to reach and hold. But finding that we had not reached the end of the enemy's fortifications, and no place presenting itself for a successful assault by which he might be doubled up and shortened, I determined to withdraw to within our fortified lines. Orders were given accordingly. Immediately upon receiving a report that General Warren had connected with General Hancock I returned to my headquarters. Soon after I left the enemy moved out across Hatcher's Run, in the gap between Generals Hancock and Warren, which was not closed as reported, and made a desperate attack on General Hancock's right and rear. General Hancock immediately faced his corps to meet it, and after a bloody combat drove the enemy within his works, and withdrew that night to his old position. In support of this movement General Butler made a demonstration on the north side of the James, and attacked the enemy on the Williamsburg road and also on the York River Railroad. In the former he was unsuccessful; in the latter he succeeded in carrying a work which was afterward abandoned, and his forces withdrawn to their former positions.

From this time forward the operations in front of Petersburg and Richmond, until the spring campaign of 1865, were confined to the defense and extension of our lines and to offensive movements for crippling the enemy's lines of communication and to prevent his detaching any considerable force to send south.* By the 7th of February our lines were extended to Hatcher's Run, and the Weldon railroad had been destroyed to Hicksford.

General Sherman moved from Chattanooga on the 6th of May, with the Armies of the Cumberland, Tennessee, and Ohio, commanded, respectively, by Generals Thomas, McPherson, and Schofield, upon Johnston's army at Dalton; but finding the enemy's positions at Buzzard Roost, covering Dalton, too strong to be assaulted, General McPherson was sent through Snake [Creek] Gap to turn it, while Generals Thomas and Schofield threatened it in front and on the north. This movement was successful. Johnston, finding his retreat likely to be cut off, fell back to his fortified position at Resaca, where he was attacked on the afternoon of May 15. A heavy battle ensued. During the night the enemy retreated south. Late on the

*Subordinate reports of operations against Petersburg and Richmond from August 1 to December 31, 1864, will appear in Vol. XLII.

17th, his rear guard was overtaken near Adairsville, and heavy skirmishing followed. The next morning, however, he had again disappeared. He was vigorously pursued and was overtaken at Cassville on the 19th, but, during the ensuing night, retreated across the Etowah. While these operations were going on, General Jefferson C. Davis' division of Thomas' army was sent to Rome, capturing it with its forts and artillery and its valuable mills and foundries. General Sherman having given his army a few days' rest at this point, again put it in motion on the 23d for Dallas, with a view of turning the difficult pass at Allatoona. On the afternoon of the 25th, the advance, under General Hooker, had a severe battle with the enemy, driving him back to New Hope Church, near Dallas. Several sharp encounters occurred at this point. The most important was on the 28th, when the enemy assaulted General McPherson at Dallas, but received a terrible and bloody repulse.

On the 4th of June Johnston abandoned his intrenched position at New Hope Church and retreated to the strong positions of Kenesaw, Pine, and Lost Mountains. He was forced to yield the two last-named places and concentrate his army on Kenesaw, where, on the 27th, Generals Thomas and McPherson made a determined but unsuccessful assault. On the night of the 2d of July Sherman commenced moving his army by the right flank, and on the morning of the 3d found that the enemy, in consequence of this movement, had abandoned Kenesaw and retreated across the Chattahoochee.

General Sherman remained on the Chattahoochee to give his men rest and get up stores until the 17th of July, when he resumed his operations, crossed the Chattahoochee, destroyed a large portion of the railroad to Augusta, and drove the enemy back to Atlanta. At this place General Hood succeeded General Johnston in command of the rebel army, and, assuming the offensive-defensive policy, made several severe attacks upon Sherman in the vicinity of Atlanta, the most desperate and determined of which was on the 22d of July. About 1 p. m. of this day the brave, accomplished, and noble-hearted McPherson was killed. General Logan succeeded him, and commanded the Army of the Tennessee through this desperate battle, and until he was superseded by Major-General Howard, on the 26th, with the same success and ability that had characterized him in the command of a corps or division. In all these attacks the enemy was repulsed with great loss. Finding it impossible to entirely invest the place, General Sherman, after securing his line of communications across the Chattahoochee, moved his main force round by the enemy's left flank upon the Montgomery and Macon roads, to draw the enemy from his fortifications. In this he succeeded, and, after defeating the enemy near Rough and Ready, Jonesborough, and Lovejoy's, forcing him to retreat to the south, on the 2d of September occupied Atlanta, the objective point of his campaign. About the time of this move the rebel cavalry, under Wheeler, attempted to cut his communications in the rear, but was repulsed at Dalton and driven into East Tennessee, whence it proceeded west to McMinnville, Murfreesborough, and Franklin, and was finally driven south of the Tennessee. The damage done by this raid was repaired in a few days. During the partial investment of Atlanta, General Rousseau joined General Sherman with a force of cavalry from Decatur, having made a successful raid upon the Atlanta and Montgomery Railroad and its branches near Opelika.

Cavalry raids were also made by Generals McCook, Garrard, and Stoneman to cut the remaining railroad communication with Atlanta. The first two were successful; the latter disastrous.

General Sherman's movement from Chattanooga to Atlanta was prompt, skillful, and brilliant. The history of his flank movements and battles during that memorable campaign will ever be read with an interest unsurpassed by anything in history. His own report, and those of his subordinate commanders accompanying it, give the details of that most successful campaign.* He was dependent for the supply of his armies upon a single-track railroad from Nashville to the point where he was operating. This passed the entire distance through a hostile country, and every foot of it had to be protected by troops. The cavalry force of the enemy under Forrest, in Northern Mississippi, was evidently waiting for Sherman to advance far enough into the mountains of Georgia to make a retreat disastrous, to get upon this line and destroy it beyond the possibility of further use. To guard against this danger Sherman left what he supposed to be a sufficient force to operate against Forrest in West Tennessee. He directed General Washburn, who commanded there, to send Brig. Gen. S. D. Sturgis, in command of this force, to attack him. On the morning of the 10th of June General Sturgis met the enemy near Guntown, Miss., was badly beaten, and driven back in utter rout and confusion to Memphis, a distance of about 100 miles, hotly pursued by the enemy. By this, however, the enemy was defeated in his designs upon Sherman's line of communications. The persistency with which he followed up this success exhausted him, and made a season for rest and repairs necessary. In the mean time Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, with the troops of the Army of the Tennessee that had been sent by General Sherman to General Banks, arrived at Memphis on their return from Red River, where they had done most excellent service. He was directed by General Sherman to immediately take the offensive against Forrest. This he did with the promptness and effect which has characterized his whole military career. On the 14th of July he met the enemy at Tupelo, Miss., and whipped him badly. The fighting continued through three days. Our loss was small compared with that of the enemy. Having accomplished the object of his expedition, General Smith returned to Memphis.† During the months of March and April this same force under Forrest annoyed us considerably. On the 24th of March it captured Union City, Ky., and its garrison, and on the 24th [25th] attacked Paducah, commanded by Col. S. G. Hicks, Fortieth Illinois Volunteers. Colonel Hicks having but a small force, withdrew to the forts near the river, from where he repulsed the enemy and drove him from the place. On the 13th of April, part of this force, under the rebel General Buford, summoned the garrison of Columbus, Ky., to surrender, but received for reply from Colonel Lawrence, Thirty-fourth New Jersey Volunteers, that, being placed there by his Government with adequate force to hold his post and repel all enemies from it, surrender was out of the question. On the morning of the same day‡ Forrest attacked Fort Pillow, Tenn., garrisoned by a detachment of Tennessee cavalry and the First Regiment Alabama Colored Troops, commanded by Major Booth. The garrison fought bravely until about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when the

*Subordinate reports of the Atlanta campaign will appear in Vol. XXXVIII.

†Subordinate reports of Sturgis' and A. J. Smith's expeditions will appear in Vol. XXXIX.

‡A mistake. Forrest attacked Fort Pillow on April 12.

enemy carried the works by assault, and, after our men threw down their arms, proceeded to an inhuman and merciless massacre of the garrison. On the 14th, General Buford, having failed at Columbus, appeared before Paducah, but was again driven off.*

Guerrillas and raiders, seemingly emboldened by Forrest's operations, were also very active in Kentucky. The most noted of these was Morgan. With a force of from 2,000 to 3,000 cavalry he entered the State through Pound Gap in the latter part of May. On the 11th of June he attacked and captured Cynthiana, with its entire garrison. On the 12th, he was overtaken by General Burbridge and completely routed with heavy loss, and was finally driven out of the State. This notorious guerrilla was afterward surprised and killed near Greeneville, Tenn., and his command captured and dispersed by General Gillem.†

In the absence of official reports of the commencement of the Red River expedition, except so far as relates to the movements of the troops sent by General Sherman under A. J. Smith, I am unable to give the date of its starting. The troops under General Smith, comprising two divisions of the Sixteenth and a detachment of the Seventeenth Army Corps, left Vicksburg on the 10th of March and reached the designated point on Red River one day earlier than that appointed by General Banks. The rebel forces at Fort De Russy, thinking to defeat him, left the fort on the 14th to give him battle in the open field; but, while occupying the enemy with skirmishing and demonstrations, Smith pushed forward to Fort De Russy, which had been left with a weak garrison, and captured it, with its garrison, about 350 men, eleven pieces of artillery, and many small-arms. Our loss was but slight. On the 15th he pushed forward to Alexandria, which place he reached on the 18th. On the 21st, he had an engagement with the enemy at Henderson's Hill, in which he defeated him, capturing 210 prisoners and four pieces of artillery. On the 28th, he again attacked and defeated the enemy under the rebel General Taylor at Cane River.‡ By the 26th, General Banks had assembled his whole army at Alexandria and pushed forward to Grand Ecore. On the morning of April 6, he moved from Grand Ecore. On the afternoon of the 7th, his advance engaged the enemy near Pleasant Hill and drove him from the field. On the same afternoon the enemy made a stand 8 miles beyond Pleasant Hill, but was again compelled to retreat. On the 8th, at Sabine Cross-Roads and Peach Hill, the enemy attacked and defeated his advance, capturing nineteen pieces of artillery and an immense amount of transportation and stores. During the night General Banks fell back to Pleasant Hill, where another battle was fought on the 9th, and the enemy repulsed with great loss. During the night General Banks continued his retrograde movement to Grand Ecore, and thence to Alexandria, which he reached on the 27th of April. Here a serious difficulty arose in getting Admiral Porter's fleet, which accompanied the expedition, over the rapids, the water having fallen so much since they passed up as to prevent their return. At the suggestion of Colonel (now Brigadier-General) Bailey, and under his superintendence, wing-dams were constructed, by which the channel was contracted so that the fleet passed down the rapids in safety.

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* For subordinate reports of Forrest's expedition into West Tennessee and Kentucky, see Vol. XXXII, Part I, p. 501.

† For subordinate reports of operations in Kentucky and East Tennessee, see Vol. XXXIX.

‡ A mistake. A. J. Smith's command reached Cotile Landing March 28.

The army evacuated Alexandria on the 14th of May, after considerable skirmishing with the enemy's advance, and reached Morganza and Point Coupée near the end of the month. The disastrous termination of this expedition, and the lateness of the season, rendered impracticable the carrying out of my plans of a movement in force sufficient to insure the capture of Mobile.

On the 23d of March Major-General Steele left Little Rock with the Seventh Army Corps to co-operate with General Banks' expedition on Red River, and reached Arkadelphia on the 28th. On the 16th of April, after driving the enemy before him, he was joined near Elkin's Ferry, in Ouachita County, by General Thayer, who had marched from Fort Smith. After several severe skirmishes, in which the enemy was defeated, General Steele reached Camden, which he occupied about the middle of April. On learning the defeat and consequent retreat of General Banks on Red River and the loss of one of his own trains at Marks' Mills, in Dallas County, General Steele determined to fall back to the Arkansas River. He left Camden on the 26th of April and reached Little Rock on the 2d of May. On the 30th of April the enemy attacked him while crossing Saline River at Jenkins' Ferry, but was repulsed with considerable loss. Our loss was about 600 in killed, wounded, and prisoners. Major-General Canby, who had been assigned to the command of the Military Division of West Mississippi, was therefore directed to send the Nineteenth Army Corps to join the armies operating against Richmond, and to limit the remainder of his command to such operations as might be necessary to hold the positions and lines of communications he then occupied. Before starting General A. J. Smith's troops back to Sherman, General Canby sent a part of it to disperse a force of the enemy that was collecting near the Mississippi River. General Smith met and defeated this force near Lake Chicot on the 5th of June. Our loss was about 40 killed and 70 wounded. In the latter part of July General Canby sent Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, with such forces as he could collect, to co-operate with Admiral Farragut against the defenses of Mobile Bay. On the 8th of August Fort Gaines surrendered to the combined naval and land forces. Fort Powell was blown up and abandoned. On the 9th, Fort Morgan was invested, and after a severe bombardment surrendered on the 23d. The total captures amounted to 1,464 prisoners and 104 pieces of artillery.*

About the last of August, it being reported that the rebel General Price, with a force of about 10,000 men, had reached Jacksonport, on his way to invade Missouri, General A. J. Smith's command, then en route from Memphis to join Sherman, was ordered to Missouri. A cavalry force was also, at the same time, sent from Memphis, under command of Colonel Winslow. This made General Rosecrans' forces superior to those of Price, and no doubt was entertained he would be able to check Price and drive him back, while the forces under General Steele, in Arkansas, would cut off his retreat. On the 26th day of September Price attacked Pilot Knob and forced the garrison to retreat, and thence moved north to the Missouri River, and continued up that river toward Kansas. General Curtis, commanding Department of Kansas, immediately collected such forces as he could to repel his invasion of Kansas, while General Rosecrans' cavalry was operating in his rear. The enemy was brought

* Subordinate reports of operations against Mobile will appear in Vol. XXXIX.

to battle on the Big Blue and defeated, with the loss of nearly all his artillery and trains and a large number of prisoners. He made a precipitate retreat to Northern Arkansas. The impunity with which Price was enabled to roam over the State of Missouri for a long time, and the incalculable mischief done by him, shows to how little purpose a superior force may be used. There is no reason why General Rosecrans should not have concentrated his forces and beaten and driven Price before the latter reached Pilot Knob.*

September 20, the enemy's cavalry under Forrest crossed the Tennessee near Waterloo, Ala., and on the 23d attacked the garrison at Athens, consisting of 600 men, which capitulated on the 24th. Soon after the surrender two regiments of re-enforcements arrived, and after a severe fight were compelled to surrender. Forrest destroyed the railroad westward, captured the garrison at Sulphur Branch trestle, skirmished with the garrison at Pulaski on the 27th, and on the same day cut the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad near Tullahoma and Decherd. On the morning of the 30th, one column of Forrest's command, under Buford, appeared before Huntsville, and summoned the surrender of the garrison. Receiving an answer in the negative, he remained in the vicinity of the place until next morning, when he again summoned its surrender, and received the same reply as on the night before. He withdrew in the direction of Athens, which place had been regarrisoned, and attacked it on the afternoon of the 1st of October, but without success. On the morning of the 2d, he renewed his attack, but was handsomely repulsed. Another column under Forrest appeared before Columbia on the morning of the 1st, but did not make an attack. On the morning of the 3d, he moved toward Mount Pleasant. While these operations were going on every exertion was made by General Thomas to destroy the forces under Forrest before he could recross the Tennessee, but was unable to prevent his escape to Corinth, Miss. In September an expedition under General Burbridge was sent to destroy the salt-works at Saltville, Va. He met the enemy on the 2d of October, about 3½ miles from Saltville, and drove him into his strongly intrenched position around the salt-works, from which he was unable to dislodge him. During the night he withdrew his command and returned to Kentucky.†

General Sherman, immediately after the fall of Atlanta, put his armies in camp in and about the place, and made all preparations for refitting and supplying them for future service. The great length of road from Atlanta to the Cumberland River, however, which had to be guarded, allowed the troops but little rest.

During this time Jeff. Davis made a speech in Macon, Ga., which was reported in the papers of the South, and soon became known to the whole country, disclosing the plans of the enemy, thus enabling General Sherman to fully meet them. He exhibited the weakness of supposing that an army that had been beaten and fearfully decimated in a vain attempt at the defensive could successfully undertake the offensive against the army that had so often defeated it. In execution of this plan, Hood, with his army, was soon reported to the southwest of Atlanta. Moving far to Sherman's right, he succeeded in reaching the railroad about Big Shanty, and moved north on it.

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*Subordinate reports of operations in Missouri will appear in Vol. XLI.

†Subordinate reports of operations in Alabama and Tennessee will appear in Vol. XXXIX.

General Sherman, leaving a force to hold Atlanta, with the remainder of his army fell upon him and drove him to Gadsden, Ala. Seeing the constant annoyance he would have with the roads to his rear if we attempted to hold Atlanta, General Sherman proposed the abandonment and destruction of that place, with all the railroads leading to it, and telegraphed me as follows:

CENTREVILLE, GA., *October* 10, 1864—noon.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch about Wilson just received. Hood is now crossing Coosa River, 12 miles below Rome, bound west. If he passes over the Mobile and Ohio road, had I not better execute the plan of my letter sent by Colonel Porter, and leave General Thomas, with the troops now in Tennessee, to defend the State? He will have an ample force when the re-enforcements ordered reach Nashville.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

For a full understanding of the plan referred to in this dispatch, I quote from the letter sent by Colonel Porter:

I will therefore give my opinion that your army and Canby's should be re-enforced to the maximum; that, after you get Wilmington, you strike for Savannah and the river; that Canby be instructed to hold the Mississippi River, and send a force to get Columbus, Ga., either by the way of the Alabama or Appalachicola, and that I keep Hood employed and put my army in final order for a march on Augusta, Columbia, and Charleston, to be ready as soon as Wilmington is sealed as to commerce and the city of Savannah is in our possession.

This was in reply to a letter of mine of date September 12, in answer to a dispatch of his containing substantially the same proposition, and in which I informed him of a proposed movement against Wilmington, and of the situation in Virginia, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *October* 11, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

Your dispatch of October 10 received. Does it not look as if Hood was going to attempt the invasion of Middle Tennessee, using the Mobile and Ohio and Memphis and Charleston roads to supply his base on the Tennessee River, about Florence or Decatur? If he does this he ought to be met and prevented from getting north of the Tennessee River. If you were to cut loose, I do not believe you would meet Hood's army, but would be bushwhacked by all the old men, little boys, and such railroad guards as are still left at home. Hood would probably strike for Nashville, thinking that by going north he could inflict greater damage upon us than we could upon the rebels by going south. If there is any way of getting at Hood's army I would prefer that; but I must trust to your own judgment. I find I shall not be able to send a force from here to act with you on Savannah. Your movements, therefore, will be independent of mine, at least until the fall of Richmond takes place. I am afraid Thomas, with such lines of road as he has to protect, could not prevent Hood from going north. With Wilson turned loose with all your cavalry, you will find the rebels put much more on the defensive than heretofore.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

KINGSTON, GA., *October* 11, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Hood moved his army from Palmetto Station across by Dallas and Cedartown, and is now on the Coosa River, south of Rome. He threw one corps on my road at Acworth, and I was forced to follow. I hold Atlanta with the Twentieth Corps, and have strong detachments along my line. This reduces my active force to a comparatively small army. We cannot remain here on the defensive. With the 25,000 men, and the bold cavalry he has, he can constantly break my roads. I would infinitely prefer to make a wreck of the road and of the country from Chattanooga to Atlanta, including the latter city, send back all my wounded and worthless, and, with my effective army, move through Georgia, smashing things to the sea. Hood may turn into Tennessee and Kentucky, but I believe he will be forced

to follow me. Instead of my being on the defensive, I would be on the offensive; instead of guessing at what he means to do, he would have to guess at my plans. The difference in war is full 25 per cent. I can make Savannah, Charleston, or the mouth of the Chattahoochee. Answer quick, as I know we will not have the telegraph long.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

City Point, Va., *October* 11, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

Your dispatch of to-day received. If you are satisfied the trip to the sea-coast can be made, holding the line of the Tennessee River firmly, you may make it, destroying all the railroad south of Dalton or Chattanooga, as you think best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

It was the original design to hold Atlanta, and by getting through to the coast, with a garrison left on the southern railroads leading east and west through Georgia, to effectually sever the East from the West; in other words, cut the would-be Confederacy in two again, as it had been cut once by our gaining possession of the Mississippi River. General Sherman's plan virtually effected this object. General Sherman commenced at once his preparations for his proposed movement, keeping his army in position in the mean time to watch Hood. Becoming satisfied that Hood had moved westward from Gadsden across Sand Mountain, General Sherman sent the Fourth Corps, Major-General Stanley commanding, and the Twenty-third Corps, Major-General Schofield commanding, back to Chattanooga to report to Major-General Thomas, at Nashville, whom he had placed in command of all the troops of his military division save the four army corps and cavalry division he designed to move with through Georgia. With the troops thus left at his disposal, there was little doubt that General Thomas could hold the line of the Tennessee, or in the event Hood should force it, would be able to concentrate and beat him in battle. It was therefore readily consented to that Sherman should start for the sea-coast. Having concentrated his troops at Atlanta by the 14th of November, he commenced his march, threatening both Augusta and Macon. His coming-out point could not be definitely fixed. Having to gather his subsistence as he marched through the country, it was not impossible that a force inferior to his own might compel him to head for such point as he could reach, instead of such as he might prefer. The blindness of the enemy, however, in ignoring his movement, and sending Hood's army, the only considerable force he had west of Richmond and east of the Mississippi River, northward on an offensive campaign, left the whole country open and Sherman's route to his own choice. How that campaign was conducted, how little opposition was met with, the condition of the country through which the armies passed, the capture of Fort McAllister, on the Savannah River, and the occupation of Savannah on the 21st of December, are all clearly set forth in General Sherman's admirable report.*

Soon after General Sherman commenced his march from Atlanta, two expeditions, one from Baton Rouge, La., and one from Vicksburg, Miss., were started by General Canby to cut the enemy's lines of communication with Mobile and detain troops in that field. Gen-

*Subordinate reports of the Savannah campaign will appear in Vol. XLIV.

eral Foster, commanding Department of the South, also sent an expedition, via Broad River, to destroy the railroad between Charleston and Savannah. The expedition from Vicksburg, under command of Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. D. Osband (colonel Third U. S. Colored Cavalry), captured, on the 27th of November, and destroyed the Mississippi Central Railroad bridge and trestle-work over Big Black River, near Canton, 30 miles of the road, and two locomotives, besides large amounts of stores. The expedition from Baton Rouge was without favorable results. The expedition from the Department of the South, under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. John P. Hatch, consisting of about 5,000 men of all arms, including a brigade from the Navy, proceeded up Broad River and embarked at Boyd's Neck on the 29th of November, from where it moved to strike the railroad at Grahamsville. At Honey Hill, about 3 miles from Grahamsville, the enemy was found and attacked in a strongly fortified position, which resulted, after severe fighting, in our repulse with a loss of 746 in killed, wounded, and missing. During the night General Hatch withdrew. On the 6th of December General Foster obtained a position covering the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, between the Coosawhatchie and Tulifinny Rivers. Hood, instead of following Sherman, continued his move northward, which seemed to me to be leading to his certain doom. At all events, had I had the power to command both armies, I should not have changed the orders under which he seemed to be acting. On the 26th of October the advance of Hood's army attacked the garrison at Decatur, Ala., but failing to carry the place, withdrew toward Courtland, and succeeded, in the face of our cavalry, in effecting a lodgment on the north side of the Tennessee River, near Florence. On the 28th, Forrest reached the Tennessee, at Fort Heiman, and captured a gun-boat and three transports. On the 2d of November he planted batteries above and below Johnsonville, on the opposite side of the river, isolating three gun-boats and eight transports. On the 4th, the enemy opened his batteries upon the place, and was replied to from the gun-boats and the garrison. The gun-boats becoming disabled were set on fire, as also were the transports, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. About $1,500,000 worth of stores and property on the levee and in store-houses was consumed by fire. On the 5th, the enemy disappeared and crossed to the north side of the Tennessee River, above Johnsonville, moving toward Clifton, and subsequently joined Hood. On the night of the 5th, General Schofield, with the advance of the Twenty-third Corps, reached Johnsonville, but finding the enemy gone, was ordered to Pulaski, and put in command of all the troops there, with instructions to watch the movements of Hood and retard his advance, but not to risk a general engagement until the arrival of General A. J. Smith's command from Missouri, and until General Wilson could get his cavalry remounted.

On the 19th, General Hood continued his advance. General Thomas, retarding him as much as possible, fell back toward Nashville for the purpose of concentrating his command and gaining time for the arrival of re-enforcements. The enemy coming up with our main force, commanded by General Schofield, at Franklin, on the 30th, assaulted our works repeatedly during the afternoon until late at night, but were in every instance repulsed. His loss in this battle was 1,750 killed, 702 prisoners, and 3,800 wounded. Among his losses were 6 general officers killed, 6 wounded, and 1 captured. Our entire loss was 2,300. This was the first serious opposition the

enemy met with, and I am satisfied was the fatal blow to all his expectations. During the night General Schofield fell back toward Nashville. This left the field to the enemy—not lost by battle, but voluntarily abandoned—so that General Thomas' whole force might be brought together. The enemy followed up and commenced the establishment of his line in front of Nashville on the 2d of December. As soon as it was ascertained that Hood was crossing the Tennessee River, and that Price was going out of Missouri, General Rosecrans was ordered to send to General Thomas the troops of General A. J. Smith's command and such other troops as he could spare. The advance of this re-enforcement reached Nashville on the 30th of November. On the morning of the 15th of December General Thomas attacked Hood in position, and, in a battle lasting two days, defeated and drove him from the field in the utmost confusion, leaving in our hands most of his artillery and many thousand prisoners, including 4 general officers.

Before the battle of Nashville I grew very impatient over, as it appeared to me, the unnecessary delay. This impatience was increased upon learning that the enemy had sent a force of cavalry across the Cumberland into Kentucky. I feared Hood would cross his whole army and give us great trouble there. After urging upon General Thomas the necessity of immediately assuming the offensive, I started west to superintend matters there in person. Reaching Washington City, I received General Thomas' dispatch announcing his attack upon the enemy, and the result as far as the battle had progressed. I was delighted. All fears and apprehensions were dispelled. I am not yet satisfied but that General Thomas, immediately upon the appearance of Hood before Nashville, and before he had time to fortify, should have moved out with his whole force and given him battle, instead of waiting to remount his cavalry, which delayed him until the inclemency of the weather made it impracticable to attack earlier than he did. But his final defeat of Hood was so complete that it will be accepted as a vindication of that distinguished officer's judgment.

After Hood's defeat at Nashville he retreated, closely pursued by cavalry and infantry, to the Tennessee River, being forced to abandon many pieces of artillery and most of his transportation. On the 28th of December our advance forces ascertained that he had made good his escape to the south side of the river. About this time, the rains having set in heavily in Tennessee and North Alabama, making it difficult to move army transportation and artillery, General Thomas stopped the pursuit by his main force at the Tennessee River. A small force of cavalry, under Col. W. J. Palmer, Fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, continued to follow Hood for some distance, capturing considerable transportation and the enemy's pontoon bridge. The details of these operations will be found clearly set forth in General Thomas' report.*

A cavalry expedition, under Brevet Major-General Grierson, started from Memphis on the 21st of December. On the 25th, he surprised and captured Forrest's dismounted camp at Verona, Miss., on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, destroyed the railroad, sixteen cars loaded with wagons and pontoons for Hood's army, 4,000 new English carbines, and large amounts of public stores. On the morning of the 28th, he attacked and captured a force of the enemy at Egypt,

*Subordinate reports of the Nashville campaign will appear in Vol. XLV.

and destroyed a train of fourteen cars; thence, turning to the southwest, he struck the Mississippi Central Railroad at Winona, destroyed the factories and large amounts of stores at Bankston, and the machine-shops and public property at Grenada, arriving at Vicksburg January 5. During these operations in Middle Tennessee, the enemy, with a force under General Breckinridge, entered East Tennessee. On the 13th of November he attacked General Gillem near Morristown, capturing his artillery and several hundred prisoners. Gillem, with what was left of his command, retreated to Knoxville. Following up his success, Breckinridge moved to near Knoxville, but withdrew on the 18th, followed by General Ammen. Under the directions of General Thomas, General Stoneman concentrated the commands of Generals Burbridge and Gillem near Bean's Station, to operate against Breckinridge and destroy or drive him into Virginia, destroy the salt-works at Saltville and the railroad into Virginia as far as he could go without endangering his command. On the 12th of December he commenced his movement, capturing and dispersing the enemy's forces wherever he met them. On the 16th, he struck the enemy under Vaughn at Marion, completely routing and pursuing him to Wytheville, capturing all his artillery, trains, and 198 prisoners, and destroyed Wytheville with its stores and supplies and the extensive lead-works near there. Returning to Marion, he met a force under Breckinridge, consisting, among other troops, of the garrison of Saltville that had started in pursuit. He at once made arrangements to attack it the next morning, but morning found Breckinridge gone. He then moved directly to Saltville, and destroyed the extensive salt-works at that place, a large amount of stores, and captured eight pieces of artillery. Having thus successfully executed his instructions, he returned General Burbridge to Lexington and General Gillem to Knoxville.*

Wilmington, N. C., was the most important sea-coast port left to the enemy through which to get supplies from abroad and send cotton and other products out by blockade-runners, besides being a place of great strategic value. The navy had been making strenuous exertions to seal the harbor of Wilmington, but with only partial effect. The nature of the outlet of Cape Fear River was such that it required watching for so great a distance that, without possession of the land north of New Inlet or Fort Fisher, it was impossible for the navy to entirely close the harbor against the entrance of blockade-runners. To secure the possession of this land required the co-operation of a land force, which I agreed to furnish. Immediately commenced the assemblage in Hampton Roads, under Admiral D. D. Porter, of the most formidable armada ever collected for concentration upon one given point. This necessarily attracted the attention of the enemy, as well as that of the loyal North, and through the imprudence of the public press, and very likely of officers of both branches of service, the exact object of the expedition became a subject of common discussion in the newspapers both North and South. The enemy, thus warned, prepared to meet it. This caused a postponement of the expedition until the latter part of November, when, being again called upon by Hon. G. V. Fox, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, I agreed to furnish the men required at once, and went myself, in company with Major-General Butler, to Hampton Roads, where we had a con-

*Subordinate reports of operations in East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia will appear in Vol. XLV.

ference with Admiral Porter as to the force required and the time of starting. A force of 6,500 men was regarded as sufficient. The time of starting was not definitely arranged, but it was thought all would be ready by the 6th of December, if not before. Learning on the 30th of November that Bragg had gone to Georgia, taking with him most of the forces about Wilmington, I deemed it of the utmost importance that the expedition should reach its destination before the return of Bragg, and directed General Butler to make all arrangements for the departure of Major-General Weitzel, who had been designated to command the land forces, so that the navy might not be detained one moment.

On the 6th of December the following instructions were given:

City Point, Va., *December* 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

General: The first object of the expedition under General Weitzel is to close to the enemy the port of Wilmington. If successful in this, the second will be to capture Wilmington itself. There are reasonable grounds to hope for success if advantage can be taken of the absence of the greater part of the enemy's forces now looking after Sherman in Georgia. The directions you have given for the numbers and equipment of the expedition are all right, except in the unimportant matter of where they embark and the amount of intrenching tools to be taken. The object of the expedition will be gained by effecting a landing on the mainland between Cape Fear River and the Atlantic, north of the north entrance to the river. Should such landing be effected while the enemy still holds Fort Fisher and the batteries guarding the entrance to the river, then the troops should intrench themselves, and, by co-operating with the navy, effect the reduction and capture of those places. These in our hands, the navy could enter the harbor, and the port of Wilmington would be sealed. Should Fort Fisher and the point of land on which it is built fall into the hands of our troops immediately on landing, then it will be worth the attempt to capture Wilmington by a forced march and surprise. If time is consumed in gaining the first object of the expedition, the second will become a matter of after consideration.

The details for execution are intrusted to you and the officer immediately in command of the troops.

Should the troops under General Weitzel fail to effect a landing at or near Fort Fisher, they will be returned to the armies operating against Richmond without delay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

General Butler commanding the army from which the troops were taken for this enterprise, and the territory within which they were to operate, military courtesy required that all orders and instructions should go through him. They were so sent; but General Weitzel has since officially informed me that he never received the foregoing instructions, nor was he aware of their existence until he read General Butler's published official report of the Fort Fisher failure, with my indorsement and papers accompanying it. I had no idea of General Butler's accompanying the expedition until the evening before it got off from Bermuda Hundred, and then did not dream but that General Weitzel had received all the instructions and would be in command. I rather formed the idea that General Butler was actuated by a desire to witness the effect of the explosion of the powder-boat. The expedition was detained several days at Hampton Roads awaiting the loading of the powder-boat. The importance of getting the Wilmington expedition off without any delay, with or without the powder-boat, had been urged upon General Butler, and he advised to so notify Admiral Porter. The expedition finally got off on the 13th of December, and arrived at the place of rendezvous (off New Inlet, near Fort Fisher) on the evening of the 15th. Admiral

Porter arrived on the evening of the 18th, having put in at Beaufort to get ammunition for the monitors. The sea becoming rough, making it difficult to land troops, and the supply of water and coal being about exhausted, the transport fleet put back to Beaufort to replenish; this, with the state of the weather, delayed the return to the place of rendezvous until the 24th. The powder-boat was exploded on the morning of the 24th before the return of General Butler from Beaufort, but it would seem from the notice taken of it in the Southern newspapers that the enemy were never enlightened as to the object of the explosion until they were informed by the Northern press.

On the 25th, a landing was effected without opposition, and a reconnaissance, under Brevet Brigadier-General Curtis, pushed up toward the fort. But before receiving a full report of the result of this reconnaissance, General Butler, in direct violation of the instructions given, ordered the re-embarkation of the troops, and the return of the expedition. The re-embarkation was accomplished by the morning of the 27th. On the return of the expedition, officers and men—among them Bvt. Maj. Gen. (then Brevet Brigadier-General) N. M. Curtis, First Lieut. G. W. Ross, —— Regiment Vermont Volunteers [One hundred and seventeenth New York], First Lieut. William H. Walling, and Second Lieut. George Simpson, One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers—voluntarily reported to me that when recalled they were nearly into the fort, and, in their opinion, it could have been taken without much loss.*

Soon after the return of the expedition, I received a dispatch from the Secretary of the Navy and a letter from Admiral Porter, informing me that the fleet was still off Fort Fisher, and expressing the conviction that, under a proper leader, the place could be taken. The natural supposition with me was that, when the troops abandoned the expedition, the navy would do so also. Finding it had not, however, I answered on the 30th of December, advising Admiral Porter to hold on, and that I would send a force and make another attempt to take the place. This time I selected Bvt. Maj. Gen. (now Major-General) A. H. Terry to command the expedition. The troops composing it consisted of the same that composed the former, with the addition of a small brigade, numbering about 1,500, and a small siege train. The latter it was never found necessary to land. I communicated direct to the commander of the expedition the following instructions:

CITY POINT, VA., *January* 3, 1865.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. TERRY:

GENERAL: The expedition intrusted to your command has been fitted out to renew the attempt to capture Fort Fisher, N. C., and Wilmington ultimately, if the fort falls. You will, then, proceed with as little delay as possible to the naval fleet lying off Cape Fear River, and report the arrival of yourself and command to Admiral D. D. Porter, commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

It is exceedingly desirable that the most complete understanding should exist between yourself and the naval commander. I suggest, therefore, that you consult with Admiral Porter freely, and get from him the part to be performed by each branch of the public service, so that there may be unity of action. It would be well to have the whole programme laid down in writing. I have served with Admiral Porter, and know that you can rely on his judgment and his nerve to undertake what he proposes. I would, therefore, defer to him as much as is consistent with your own responsibilities. The first object to be attained is to get a firm position on the spit of land on which Fort Fisher is built, from which you can operate against that fort. You want to look to the practicability of receiving your supplies, and

*Subordinate reports of Butler's expedition will appear in Vol. XLII.

to defending yourself against superior forces sent against you by any of the avenues left open to the enemy. If such a position can be obtained, the siege of Fort Fisher will not be abandoned until its reduction is accomplished or another plan of campaign is ordered from these headquarters.

My own views are that, if you effect a landing, the navy ought to run a portion of their fleet into Cape Fear River, while the balance of it operates on the outside. Land forces cannot invest Fort Fisher, or cut it off from supplies or re-enforcements, while the river is in possession of the enemy.

A siege train will be loaded on vessels and sent to Fort Monroe, in readiness to be sent to you if required. All other supplies can be drawn from Beaufort as you need them. Keep the fleet of vessels with you until your position is assured. When you find they can be spared, order them back, or such of them as you can spare, to Fort Monroe, to report for orders. In case of failure to effect a landing, bring your command back to Beaufort, and report to these headquarters for further instructions. You will not debark at Beaufort until so directed.

General Sheridan has been ordered to send a division of troops to Baltimore and place them on sea-going vessels. These troops will be brought to Fort Monroe and kept there on the vessels until you are heard from. Should you require them they will be sent to you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Lieut. Col. C. B. Comstock, aide-de-camp (now brevet brigadier-general), who accompanied the former expedition, was assigned in orders as chief engineer to this. It will be seen that these instructions did not differ materially from those given for the first expedition, and that in neither instance was there an order to assault Fort Fisher. This was a matter left entirely to the discretion of the commanding officer. The expedition sailed from Fort Monroe on the morning of the 6th, arriving on the rendezvous, off Beaufort, on the 8th, where, owing to the difficulties of the weather, it lay until the morning of the 12th, when it got under way and reached its destination that evening. Under cover of the fleet the disembarkation of the troops commenced on the morning of the 13th, and by 3 p. m. was completed without loss. On the 14th, a reconnaissance was pushed to within 500 yards of Fort Fisher, and a small advance work taken possession of and turned into a defensive line against any attempt that might be made from the fort. This reconnaissance disclosed the fact that the front of the work had been seriously injured by the navy fire. In the afternoon of the 15th, the fort was assaulted, and after most desperate fighting was captured with its entire garrison and armament. Thus was secured, by the combined efforts of the navy and army, one of the most important successes of the war. Our loss was, killed, 110; wounded, 536. On the 16th and 17th, the enemy abandoned and blew up Fort Caswell and the works on Smith's Island, which were immediately occupied by us. This gave us entire control of the mouth of the Cape Fear River.*

At my request, Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler was relieved, and Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord assigned to the command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

The defense of the line of the Tennessee no longer requiring the force which had beaten and nearly destroyed the only army threatening it, I determined to find other fields of operation for General Thomas' surplus troops—fields from which they would co-operate with other movements. General Thomas was therefore directed to collect all troops not essential to hold his communications at Eastport, in readiness for orders. On the 7th of January General Thomas was directed, if he was assured of the departure of Hood south from

*Subordinate reports of Terry's expedition will appear in Vol. XLVI.

Corinth, to send General Schofield with his corps East with as little delay as possible. This direction was promptly complied with, and the advance of the corps reached Washington on the 23d of the same month, whence it was sent to Fort Fisher and New Berne. On the 26th, he was directed to send General A. J. Smith's command and a division of cavalry to report to General Canby. By the 7th of February the whole force was en route for its destination.

The State of North Carolina was constituted into a military department, and General Schofield assigned to command, and placed under the orders of Major-General Sherman. The following instructions were given him :

CITY POINT, VA., *January* 31, 1865.

Maj. Gen. J. M. SCHOFIELD :

GENERAL : * * * Your movements are intended as co-operative with Sherman's through the States of South and North Carolina. The first point to be attained is to secure Wilmington. Goldsborough will then be your objective point, moving either from Wilmington or New Berne, or both, as you deem best. Should you not be able to reach Goldsborough, you will advance on the line or lines of railway connecting that place with the sea-coast, as near to it as you can, building the road behind you. The enterprise under you has two objects : the first is, to give General Sherman material aid, if needed, in his march north ; the second, to open a base of supplies for him on his line of march. As soon, therefore, as you can determine which of the two points, Wilmington or New Berne, you can best use for throwing supplies from to the interior, you will commence the accumulation of twenty days' rations and forage for 60,000 men and 20,000 animals. You will get of these as many as you can house and protect to such point in the interior as you may be able to occupy. I believe General Palmer has received some instructions direct from General Sherman on the subject of securing supplies for his army. You can learn what steps he has taken, and be governed in your requisitions accordingly. A supply of ordnance stores will also be necessary.

Make all requisitions upon the chiefs of their respective departments in the field with me at City Point. Communicate with me by every opportunity, and, should you deem it necessary at any time, send a special boat to Fort Monroe, from which point you can communicate by telegraph.

The supplies referred to in these instructions are exclusive of those required for your own command.

The movements of the enemy may justify, or even make it your imperative duty to cut loose from your base and strike for the interior to aid Sherman. In such case you will act on your own judgment, without waiting for instructions. You will report, however, what you purpose doing. The details for carrying out these instructions are necessarily left to you. I would urge, however, if I did not know that you are already fully alive to the importance of it, prompt action. Sherman may be looked for in the neighborhood of Goldsborough any time from the 22d to the 28th of February ; this limits your time very materially.

If rolling-stock is not secured in the capture of Wilmington, it can be supplied from Washington. A large force of railroad men have already been sent to Beaufort, and other mechanics will go to Fort Fisher in a day or two. On this point I have informed you by telegraph.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Previous to giving these instructions I had visited Fort Fisher, accompanied by General Schofield, for the purpose of seeing for myself the condition of things, and personally conferring with General Terry and Admiral Porter as to what was best to be done.

Anticipating the arrival of General Sherman at Savannah—his army entirely foot-loose, Hood being then before Nashville, Tenn., the Southern railroads destroyed, so that it would take several months to re-establish a through line from west to east, and regarding the capture of Lee's army as the most important operation toward closing the rebellion—I sent orders to General Sherman, on the 6th of December, that after establishing a base on the sea-coast, with necessary garrison to include all his artillery and cavalry, to

come by water to City Point with the balance of his command. On the 18th of December, having received information of the defeat and utter rout of Hood's army by General Thomas, and that, owing to the great difficulty of procuring ocean transportation, it would take over two months to transport Sherman's army, and doubting whether he might not contribute as much toward the desired result by operating from where he was, I wrote to him to that effect and asked him for his views as to what would be best to do. A few days after this I received a communication from General Sherman, of date 16th December, acknowledging the receipt of my order of the 6th, and informing me of his preparations to carry it into effect as soon as he could get transportation; also, that he had expected, upon reducing Savannah, instantly to march to Columbia, S. C., thence to Raleigh, and thence to report to me; but that this would consume about six weeks' time after the fall of Savannah, whereas by sea he could probably reach me by the middle of January. The confidence he manifested in this letter of being able to march up and join me pleased me, and, without waiting for a reply to my letter of the 18th, I directed him, on the 28th of December, to make preparations to start, as he proposed, without delay, to break up the railroads in North and South Carolina and join the armies operating against Richmond as soon as he could.

On the 21st of January I informed General Sherman that I had ordered the Twenty-third Corps, Major-General Schofield commanding, East; that it numbered about 21,000 men; that we had at Fort Fisher about 8,000 men, at New Berne about 4,000; that if Wilmington was captured, General Schofield would go there; if not, he would be sent to New Berne; that, in either event, all the surplus force at both points would move to the interior toward Goldsborough, in co-operation with his movement; that from either point railroad communication could be run out; and that all these troops would be subject to his orders as he came into communication with them. In obedience to his instructions, General Schofield proceeded to reduce Wilmington, N. C., in co-operation with the navy under Admiral Porter, moving his forces up both sides of the Cape Fear River. Fort Anderson, the enemy's main defense on the west bank of the river, was occupied on the morning of the 19th, the enemy having evacuated it after our appearance before it. After fighting on the 20th and 21st, our troops entered Wilmington on the morning of the 22d, the enemy having retreated toward Goldsborough during the night. Preparations were at once made for a movement on Goldsborough in two columns—one from Wilmington, and the other from New Berne—and to repair the railroads leading there from each place, as well as to supply General Sherman by Cape Fear River, toward Fayetteville, if it became necessary. The column from New Berne was attacked on the 8th of March at Wise's Forks, and driven back with the loss of several hundred prisoners. On the 11th, the enemy renewed his attack upon our intrenched position, but was repulsed with severe loss, and fell back during the night. On the 14th, the Neuse River was crossed and Kinston occupied, and on the 21st, Goldsborough was entered. The column from Wilmington reached Cox's Bridge, on the Neuse River, 10 miles above Goldsborough, on the 22d.

By the 1st of February General Sherman's whole army was in motion from Savannah. He captured Columbia, S. C., on the 17th; thence moved on Goldsborough, N. C., via Fayetteville, reaching the

latter place on the 12th of March, opening up communication with General Schofield by way of Cape Fear River. On the 15th, he resumed his march on Goldsborough. He met a force of the enemy at Averysborough, and after a severe fight defeated and compelled it to retreat. Our loss in the engagement was about 600; the enemy's loss was much greater. On the 18th, the combined forces of the enemy, under Joe Johnston, attacked his advance at Bentonville, capturing three guns and driving it back upon the main body. General Slocum, who was in the advance, ascertaining that the whole of Johnston's army was in the front, arranged his troops on the defensive, intrenched himself, and awaited re-enforcements, which were pushed forward. On the night of the 21st, the enemy retreated to Smithfield, leaving his dead and wounded in our hands. From there Sherman continued to Goldsborough, which place had been occupied by General Schofield on the 21st, crossing the Neuse River 10 miles above there, at Cox's Bridge, where General Terry had got possession and thrown a pontoon bridge, on the 22d, thus forming a junction with the columns from New Berne and Wilmington. Among the important fruits of this campaign was the fall of Charleston, S. C. It was evacuated by the enemy on the night of the 17th of February, and occupied by our forces on the 18th.*

On the morning of the 31st of January General Thomas was directed to send a cavalry expedition under General Stoneman from East Tennessee, to penetrate South Carolina well down toward Columbia, to destroy the railroads and military resources of the country, and return, if he was able, to East Tennessee, by way of Salisbury, N. C., releasing our prisoners there, if possible. Of the feasibility of this latter, however, General Stoneman was to judge. Sherman's movements, I had no doubt, would attract the attention of all the force the enemy could collect and facilitate the execution of this. General Stoneman was so late in making his start on this expedition, and Sherman having passed out of the State of South Carolina, on the 27th of February I directed General Thomas to change his course, and ordered him to repeat his raid of last fall, destroying the railroad toward Lynchburg as far as he could. This would keep him between our garrisons in East Tennessee and the enemy. I regarded it not impossible that in the event of the enemy being driven from Richmond he might fall back to Lynchburg and attempt a raid north through East Tennessee. On the 14th of February the following communication was sent to General Thomas:

CITY POINT, VA., *February* 14, 1865.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

General Canby is preparing a movement from Mobile Bay against Mobile and the interior of Alabama. His force will consist of about 20,000 men, besides A. J. Smith's command. The cavalry you have sent to Canby will be debarked at Vicksburg. It, with the available cavalry already in that section, will move from there eastward, in co-operation. Hood's army has been terribly reduced by the severe punishment you gave it in Tennessee, by desertion consequent upon their defeat, and now by the withdrawal of many of them to oppose Sherman. (I take it a large portion of the infantry has been so withdrawn. It is so asserted in the Richmond papers, and a member of the rebel Congress said a few days since in a speech that one-half of it had been brought to South Carolina to oppose Sherman.) This being true, or even if it is not true, Canby's movement will attract all the attention of the enemy, and leave the advance from your stand-point easy. I think it advisable, therefore, that you prepare as much of a cavalry force as you can spare, and hold it in readiness to go south. The object would be three-fold: First, to attract as much

*Subordinate reports of the campaign of the Carolinas will appear in Vol. XLVII.

of the enemy's force as possible to insure success to Canby; second, to destroy the enemy's lines of communication and military resources; third, to destroy or capture their forces brought into the field. Tuscaloosa and Selma would probably be the points to direct the expedition against. This, however, would not be so important as the mere fact of penetrating deep into Alabama. Discretion should be left to the officer commanding the expedition to go where, according to the information he may receive, he will best secure the objects named above.

Now that your force has been so much depleted, I do not know what number of men you can put into the field. If not more than 5,000 men, however, all cavalry, I think it will be sufficient. It is not desirable that you should start this expedition until the one leaving Vicksburg has been three or four days out, or even a week. I do not know when it will start, but will inform you by telegraph as soon as I learn. If you should hear through other sources before hearing from me, you can act on the information received.

To insure success, your cavalry should go with as little wagon train as possible, relying upon the country for supplies. I would also reduce the number of guns to a battery, or the number of batteries, and put the extra teams to the guns taken. No guns or caissons should be taken with less than eight horses.

Please inform me by telegraph, on receipt of this, what force you think you will be able to send under these directions.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

On the 15th, he was directed to start the expedition as soon after the 20th as he could get it off. I deemed it of the utmost importance, before a general movement of the armies operating against Richmond, that all communication with the city north of James River should be cut off. The enemy having withdrawn the bulk of his force from the Shenandoah Valley and sent it south, or replaced troops sent from Richmond, and desiring to re-enforce Sherman, if practicable, whose cavalry was greatly inferior in numbers to that of the enemy, I determined to make a move from the Shenandoah, which, if successful, would accomplish the first, at least, and possibly the latter of these objects. I therefore telegraphed General Sheridan as follows:

CITY POINT, VA., *February* 20, 1865—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN:

GENERAL: As soon as it is possible to travel I think you will have no difficulty about reaching Lynchburg with a cavalry force alone. From there you could destroy the railroad and canal in every direction, so as to be of no further use to the rebellion. Sufficient cavalry should be left behind to look after Mosby's gang. From Lynchburg, if information you might get there would justify it, you could strike south, heading the streams in Virginia to the westward of Danville, and push on and join General Sherman. This additional raid, with one now about starting from East Tennessee under Stoneman, numbering 4,000 or 5,000 cavalry, one from Vicksburg, numbering 7,000 or 8,000 cavalry, one from Eastport, Miss., 10,000 cavalry, Canby from Mobile Bay, with about 38,000 mixed troops, these three latter pushing for Tuscaloosa, Selma, and Montgomery, and Sherman with a large army eating out the vitals of South Carolina, is all that will be wanted to leave nothing for the rebellion to stand upon. I would advise you to overcome great obstacles to accomplish this. Charleston was evacuated on Tuesday last.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

On the 25th, I received a dispatch from General Sheridan, inquiring where Sherman was aiming for, and if I could give him definite information as to the points he might be expected to move on this side of Charlotte, N. C. In answer the following telegram was sent him:

CITY POINT, VA., *February* 25, 1865.

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN:

GENERAL: Sherman's movements will depend on the amount of opposition he meets with from the enemy. If strongly opposed, he may possibly have to fall back to Georgetown, S. C., and fit out for a new start. I think, however, all danger for the necessity of going to that point has passed. I believe he has passed Charlotte. He may take Fayetteville on his way to Goldsborough. If you reach Lynchburg,

you will have to be guided in your after movements by the information you obtain. Before you could possibly reach Sherman, I think you would find him moving from Goldsborough toward Raleigh, or engaging the enemy strongly posted at one or the other of these places, with railroad communications opened from his army to Wilmington or New Berne.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

General Sheridan moved from Winchester on the 27th of February, with two divisions of cavalry, numbering about 5,000 each. On the 1st of March he secured the bridge, which the enemy attempted to destroy, across the Middle Fork of the Shenandoah, at Mount Crawford, and entered Staunton on the 2d, the enemy having retreated on Waynesborough. Thence he pushed on to Waynesborough, where he found the enemy in force in an intrenched position, under General Early. Without stopping to make a reconnaissance, an immediate attack was made, the position was carried, and 1,600 prisoners, 11 pieces of artillery, with horses and caissons complete, 200 wagons and teams loaded with subsistence, and 17 battle-flags were captured. The prisoners, under an escort of 1,500 men, were sent back to Winchester. Thence he marched on Charlottesville, destroying effectually the railroad and bridges as he went, which place he reached on the 3d. Here he remained two days, destroying the railroad toward Richmond and Lynchburg, including the large iron bridges over the North and South Forks of the Rivanna River, and awaiting the arrival of his trains. This necessary delay caused him to abandon the idea of capturing Lynchburg. On the morning of the 6th, dividing his force into two columns, he sent one to Scottsville, whence it marched up the James River Canal to New Market, destroying every lock, and in many places the bank of the canal. From here a force was pushed out from this column to Duguidsville, to obtain possession of the bridge across the James River at that place, but failed. The enemy burned it on our approach. The enemy also burned the bridge across the river at Hardwicksville. The other column moved down the railroad toward Lynchburg, destroying it as far as Amherst Court-House, 16 miles from Lynchburg; thence across the country, uniting with the column at New Market. The river being very high, his pontoons would not reach across it; and the enemy having destroyed the bridges by which he had hoped to cross the river and get on the South Side Railroad about Farmville, and destroy it to Appomattox Court-House, the only thing left for him was to return to Winchester or strike a base at the White House. Fortunately, he chose the latter. From New Market he took up his line of march, following the canal toward Richmond, destroying every lock upon it and cutting the banks wherever practicable, to a point 8 miles east of Goochland, concentrating the whole force at Columbia on the 10th. Here he rested one day, and sent through by scouts information of his whereabouts and purposes, and a request for supplies to meet him at White House, which reached me on the night of the 12th. An infantry force was immediately sent to get possession of White House, and supplies were forwarded. Moving from Columbia in a direction to threaten Richmond, to near Ashland Station, he crossed the Annas, and after having destroyed all the bridges and many miles of the railroad, proceeded down the north bank of the Pamunkey to White House, which place he reached on the 19th.*

*Subordinate reports of Sheridan's expedition will appear in Vol. XLVI.

Previous to this the following communication was sent to General Thomas:

CITY POINT, VA., *March* 7, 1865—9.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. H. THOMAS:

GENERAL: I think it will be advisable now for you to repair the railroad in East Tennessee, and throw a good force up to Bull's Gap and fortify there. Supplies at Knoxville could always be got forward as required. With Bull's Gap fortified, you can occupy as outposts about all of East Tennessee, and be prepared, if it should be required of you in the spring, to make a campaign toward Lynchburg or into North Carolina. I do not think Stoneman should break the road until he gets into Virginia, unless it should be to cut off rolling-stock that may be caught west of that.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Thus it will be seen that in March, 1865, General Canby was moving an adequate force against Mobile and the army defending it under General Dick Taylor; Thomas was pushing out two large and well-appointed cavalry expeditions—one from Middle Tennessee, under Brevet Major-General Wilson, against the enemy's vital points in Alabama; the other from East Tennessee, under Major-General Stoneman, toward Lynchburg—and assembling the remainder of his available forces preparatory to offensive operations from East Tennessee; General Sheridan's cavalry was at White House; the Armies of the Potomac and James were confronting the enemy under Lee in his defenses of Richmond and Petersburg; General Sherman with his armies, re-enforced by that of General Schofield, was at Goldsborough; General Pope was making preparations for a spring campaign against the enemy under Kirby Smith and Price, west of the Mississippi, and General Hancock was concentrating a force in the vicinity of Winchester, Va., to guard against invasion or to operate offensively, as might prove necessary. After the long march by General Sheridan's cavalry over winter roads, it was necessary to rest and refit at White House. At this time the greatest source of uneasiness to me was the fear that the enemy would leave his strong lines about Petersburg and Richmond for the purpose of uniting with Johnston, before he was driven from them by battle or I was prepared to make an effectual pursuit. On the 24th of March General Sheridan moved from White House, crossed the James River at Jones' Landing, and formed a junction with the Army of the Potomac in front of Petersburg on the 27th. During this move General Ord sent forces to cover the crossings of the Chickahominy. On the 24th of March the following instructions for a general movement of the armies operating against Richmond were issued:

CITY POINT, VA., *March* 24, 1865.

Major-Generals MEADE, ORD, and SHERIDAN:

GENERAL: On the 29th instant the armies operating against Richmond will be moved by our left, for the double purpose of turning the enemy out of his present position around Petersburg and to insure the success of the cavalry under General Sheridan, which will start at the same time, in its efforts to reach and destroy the South Side and Danville Railroads. Two corps of the Army of the Potomac will be moved at first in two columns, taking the two roads crossing Hatcher's Run nearest where the present line held by us strikes that stream, both moving toward Dinwiddie Court-House.

The cavalry under General Sheridan, joined by the division now under General Davies, will move at the same time by the Weldon road and the Jerusalem plank road, turning west from the latter before crossing the Nottoway, and west with the whole column before reaching Stony Creek. General Sheridan will then move

independently, under other instructions which will be given him. All dismounted cavalry belonging to the Army of the Potomac, and the dismounted cavalry from the Middle Military Division not required for guarding property belonging to their arm of service, will report to Brigadier-General Benham, to be added to the defenses of City Point. Major-General Parke will be left in command of all the army left for holding the lines about Petersburg and City Point, subject, of course, to orders from the commander of the Army of the Potomac. The Ninth Army Corps will be left intact to hold the present line of works so long as the whole line now occupied by us is held. If, however, the troops to the left of the Ninth Corps are withdrawn, then the left of the corps may be thrown back so as to occupy the position held by the army prior to the capture of the Weldon road. All troops to the left of the Ninth Corps will be held in readiness to move at the shortest notice by such route as may be designated when the order is given.

General Ord will detach three divisions, two white and one colored, or so much of them as he can, and hold his present lines and march for the present left of the Army of the Potomac. In the absence of further orders, or until further orders are given, the white divisions will follow the left column of the Army of the Potomac, and the colored division the right column. During the movement Major-General Weitzel will be left in command of all the forces remaining behind from the Army of the James.

The movement of troops from the Army of the James will commence on the night of the 27th instant. General Ord will leave behind the miminum number of cavalry necessary for picket duty, in the absence of the main army. A cavalry expedition from General Ord's command will also be started from Suffolk, to leave there on Saturday, the 1st of April, under Colonel Sumner, for the purpose of cutting the railroad about Hicksford. This, if accomplished, will have to be a surprise, and therefore from 300 to 500 men will be sufficient. They should, however, be supported by all the infantry that can be spared from Norfolk and Portsmouth, as far out as to where the cavalry crosses the Blackwater. The crossing should probably be at Uniten. Should Colonel Sumner succeed in reaching the Weldon road he will be instructed to do all the damage possible to the triangle of roads between Hicksford, Weldon, and Gaston. The railroad bridge at Weldon being fitted up for the passage of carriages, it might be practicable to destroy any accumulation of supplies the enemy may have collected south of the Roanoke. All the troops will move with four days' rations in haversacks and eight days' in wagons. To avoid as much hauling as possible, and to give the Army of the James the same number of days' supply with the Army of the Potomac, General Ord will direct his commissary and quartermaster to have sufficient supplies delivered at the terminus of the road to fill up in passing. Sixty rounds of ammunition per man will be taken in wagons, and as much grain as the transportation on hand will carry, after taking the specified amount of other supplies. The densely wooded country in which the army has to operate making the use of much artillery impracticable, the amount taken with the army will be reduced to six or eight guns to each division, at the option of the army commanders.

All necessary preparations for carrying these directions into operation may be commenced at once. The reserves of the Ninth Corps should be massed as much as possible. While I would not now order an unconditional attack on the enemy's line by them, they should be ready, and should make the attack if the enemy weaken his line in their front, without waiting for orders. In case they carry the line, then the whole of the Ninth Corps could follow up, so as to join or co-operate with the balance of the army. To prepare for this the Ninth Corps will have rations issued to them, same as the balance of the army. General Weitzel will keep vigilant watch upon his front, and if found at all practicable to break through at any point, he will do so. A success north of the James should be followed up with great promptness. An attack will not be feasible unless it is found that the enemy has detached largely. In that case it may be regarded as evident that the enemy are relying upon their local reserves, principally, for the defense of Richmond. Preparations may be made for abandoning all the line north of the James, except inclosed works—only to be abandoned, however, after a break is made in the lines of the enemy.

By these instructions a large part of the armies operating against Richmond is left behind. The enemy, knowing this, may, as an only chance, strip their lines to the merest skeleton, in the hope of advantage not being taken of it, while they hurl everything against the moving column, and return. It cannot be impressed too strongly upon commanders of troops left in the trenches not to allow this to occur without taking advantage of it. The very fact of the enemy coming out to attack, if he does so, might be regarded as almost conclusive evidence of such a weakening

of his lines. I would have it particularly enjoined upon corps commanders that, in case of an attack from the enemy, those not attacked are not to wait for orders from the commanding officer of the army to which they belong, but that they will move promptly, and notify the commander of their action. I would also enjoin the same action on the part of division commanders when other parts of their corps are engaged. In like manner, I would urge the importance of following up a repulse of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Early on the morning of the 25th, the enemy assaulted our lines in front of the Ninth Corps (which held from the Appomattox River toward our left) and carried Fort Stedman and a part of the line to the right and left of it, established themselves, and turned the guns of the fort against us; but our troops on either flank held their ground until the reserves were brought up, when the enemy was driven back with a heavy loss in killed and wounded and 1,900 prisoners. Our loss was 68 killed, 337 wounded, and 506 missing. General Meade at once ordered the other corps to advance and feel the enemy in their respective fronts. Pushing forward, they captured and held the enemy's strongly intrenched picket-line in front of the Second and Sixth Corps, and 834 prisoners. The enemy made desperate attempts to retake this line, but without success. Our loss in front of these was 52 killed, 864 wounded, and 207 missing. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded was far greater.

General Sherman having got his troops all quietly in camp about Goldsborough and his preparations for furnishing supplies to them perfected, visited me at City Point on the 27th of March, and stated that he would be ready to move, as he had previously written me, by the 10th of April, fully equipped and rationed for twenty days, if it should become necessary to bring his command to bear against Lee's army, in co-operation with our forces in front of Richmond and Petersburg. General Sherman proposed in this movement to threaten Raleigh, and then, by turning suddenly to the right, reach the Roanoke at Gaston or thereabouts, whence he could move on to the Richmond and Danville Railroad, striking it in the vicinity of Burkeville, or join the armies operating against Richmond, as might be deemed best. This plan he was directed to carry into execution, if he received no further directions in the mean time. I explained to him the movement I had ordered to commence on the 29th of March; that if it should not prove as entirely successful as I hoped, I would cut the cavalry loose to destroy the Danville and South Side Railroads, and thus deprive the enemy of further supplies, and also prevent the rapid concentration of Lee's and Johnston's armies.

I had spent days of anxiety lest each morning should bring the report that the enemy had retreated the night before. I was firmly convinced that Sherman's crossing the Roanoke would be the signal for Lee to leave. With Johnston and him combined, a long, tedious, and expensive campaign, consuming most of the summer, might become necessary. By moving out I would put the army in better condition for pursuit, and would at least, by the destruction of the Danville road, retard the concentration of the two armies of Lee and Johnston, and cause the enemy to abandon much material that he might otherwise save. I therefore determined not to delay the movement ordered. On the night of the 27th, Major-General Ord, with two divisions of the Twenty-fourth Corps, Major-General Gibbon commanding, and one division of the Twenty-fifth Corps, Brigadier-

General Birney commanding, and Mackenzie's cavalry, took up his line of march in pursuance of the foregoing instructions, and reached the position assigned him near Hatcher's Run on the morning of the 29th. On the 28th, the following instructions were given to General Sheridan :

CITY POINT, VA., *March* 28, 1865.

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN :

GENERAL : The Fifth Army Corps will move by the Vaughn road at 3 a. m. to-morrow morning. The Second moves at about 9 a. m., having but about 3 miles to march to reach the point designated for it to take on the right of the Fifth Corps, after the latter reaching Dinwiddie Court-House. Move your cavalry at as early an hour as you can, and without being confined to any particular road or roads. You may go out by the nearest roads in rear of the Fifth Corps, pass by its left, and, passing near to or through Dinwiddie, reach the right and rear of the enemy as soon as you can. It is not the intention to attack the enemy in his intrenched position, but to force him out, if possible. Should he come out and attack us, or get himself where he can be attacked, move in with your entire force in your own way, and with the full reliance that the army will engage or follow, as circumstances will dictate. I shall be on the field, and will probably be able to communicate with you. Should I not do so, and you find that the enemy keeps within his main intrenched line, you may cut loose and push for the Danville road. If you find it practicable, I would like you to cross the South Side road, between Petersburg and Burkeville, and destroy it to some extent. I would not advise much detention, however, until you reach the Danville road, which I would like you to strike as near to the Appomattox as possible. Make your destruction on that road as complete as possible. You can then pass on to the South Side road, west of Burkeville, and destroy that in like manner.

After having accomplished the destruction of the two railroads, which are now the only avenues of supply to Lee's army, you may return to this army, selecting your road further south, or you may go on into North Carolina and join General Sherman. Should you select the latter course, get the information to me as early as possible, so that I may send orders to meet you at Goldsborough.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

On the morning of the 29th, the movement commenced. At night the cavalry was at Dinwiddie Court-House, and the left of our infantry line extended to the Quaker road, near its intersection with the Boydton plank road. The position of the troops, from left to right, was as follows: Sheridan, Warren, Humphreys, Ord, Wright, Parke. Everything looked favorable to the defeat of the enemy and the capture of Petersburg and Richmond, if the proper effort was made. I therefore addressed the following communication to General Sheridan, having previously informed him verbally not to cut loose for the raid contemplated in his orders until he received notice from me to do so :

GRAVELLY CREEK, *March* 29, 1865.

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN :

GENERAL : Our line is now unbroken from the Appomattox to Dinwiddie. We are all ready, however, to give up all, from the Jerusalem plank road to Hatcher's Run, whenever the forces can be used advantageously. After getting into line south of Hatcher's we pushed forward to find the enemy's position. General Griffin was attacked near where the Quaker road intersects the Boydton road, but repulsed it easily, capturing about 100 men. Humphreys reached Dabney's Mills, and was pushing on when last heard from.

I now feel like ending the matter, if it is possible to do so, before going back. I do not want you, therefore, to cut loose and go after the enemy's roads at present. In the morning push around the enemy, if you can, and get on to his right rear. The movements of the enemy's cavalry may, of course, modify your action. We will act all together as one army here until it is seen what can be done with the enemy. The signal officer at Cobb's Hill reported, at 11.30 a. m., that a cavalry column had passed that point from Richmond toward Petersburg, taking forty minutes to pass.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

From the night of the 29th to the morning of the 31st, the rain fell in such torrents as to make it impossible to move a wheeled vehicle, except as corduroy roads were laid in front of them. During the 30th, Sheridan advanced from Dinwiddie Court-House toward Five Forks, where he found the enemy in force. General Warren advanced and extended his line across the Boydton plank road to near the White Oak road, with a view of getting across the latter; but finding the enemy strong in his front and extending beyond his left, was directed to hold on where he was and fortify. General Humphreys drove the enemy from his front into his main line on the Hatcher, near Burgess' Mills. Generals Ord, Wright, and Parke made examinations in their fronts to determine the feasibility of an assault on the enemy's lines. The two latter reported favorably. The enemy confronting us, as he did, at every point from Richmond to our extreme left, I conceived his lines must be weakly held, and could be penetrated if my estimate of his forces was correct. I determined, therefore, to extend our line no farther, but to re-enforce General Sheridan with a corps of infantry, and thus enable him to cut loose and turn the enemy's right flank, and with the other corps assault the enemy's lines. The result of the offensive effort of the enemy the week before, when he assaulted Fort Stedman, particularly favored this. The enemy's intrenched picket-line captured by us at that time threw the lines occupied by the belligerents so close together at some points that it was but a moment's run from one to the other. Preparations were at once made to relieve General Humphreys' corps to report to General Sheridan, but the condition of the roads prevented immediate movement. On the morning of the 31st General Warren reported favorably to getting possession of the White Oak road, and was directed to do so. To accomplish this, he moved with one division, instead of his whole corps, which was attacked by the enemy in superior force and driven back on the Second Division before it had time to form, and it, in turn, forced back upon the Third Division, when the enemy was checked. A division of the Second Corps was immediately sent to his support, the enemy driven back with heavy loss, and possession of the White Oak road gained. Sheridan advanced, and with a portion of his cavalry got possession of the Five Forks, but the enemy, after the affair with the Fifth Corps, re-enforced the rebel cavalry defending that point with infantry, and forced him back toward Dinwiddie Court-House. Here General Sheridan displayed great generalship. Instead of retreating with his whole command on the main army, to tell the story of superior forces encountered, he deployed his cavalry on foot, leaving only mounted men enough to take charge of the horses. This compelled the enemy to deploy over a vast extent of wooded and broken country, and made his progress slow. At this juncture he dispatched to me what had taken place, and that he was dropping back slowly on Dinwiddie Court-House. General Mackenzie's cavalry and one division of the Fifth Corps were immediately ordered to his assistance. Soon after, receiving a report from General Meade that Humphreys could hold our position on the Boydton road, and that the other two divisions of the Fifth Corps could go to Sheridan, they were so ordered at once. Thus the operations of the day necessitated the sending of Warren, because of his accessibility, instead of Humphreys, as was intended, and precipitated intended movements.

On the morning of the 1st of April, General Sheridan, re-enforced by General Warren, drove the enemy back on Five Forks, where, late in the evening, he assaulted and carried his strongly fortified position, capturing all his artillery and between 5,000 and 6,000 prisoners. About the close of this battle Bvt. Maj. Gen. Charles Griffin relieved Major-General Warren in command of the Fifth Corps. The report of this reached me after nightfall. Some apprehensions filled my mind lest the enemy might desert his lines during the night, and by falling upon General Sheridan before assistance could reach him, drive him from his position and open the way for retreat. To guard against this, General Miles' division of Humphreys' corps was sent to re-enforce him, and a bombardment was commenced and kept up until 4 o'clock in the morning (April 2), when an assault was ordered on the enemy's lines. General Wright penetrated the lines with his whole corps, sweeping everything before him and to his left toward Hatcher's Run, capturing many guns and several thousand prisoners. He was closely followed by two divisions of General Ord's command, until he met the other division of General Ord's that had succeeded in forcing the enemy's lines near Hatcher's Run. Generals Wright and Ord immediately swung to the right, and closed all of the enemy on that side of them in Petersburg, while General Humphreys pushed forward with two divisions and joined General Wright on the left. General Parke succeeded in carrying the enemy's main line, capturing guns and prisoners, but was unable to carry his inner line. General Sheridan, being advised of the condition of affairs, returned General Miles to his proper command. On reaching the enemy's lines immediately surrounding Petersburg, a portion of General Gibbon's corps, by a most gallant charge, captured two strong inclosed works, the most salient and commanding south of Petersburg, thus materially shortening the line of investment necessary for taking in the city. The enemy south of Hatcher's Run retreated westward to Sutherland's Station, where they were overtaken by Miles' division. A severe engagement ensued and lasted until both his right and left flanks were threatened by the approach of General Sheridan, who was moving from Ford's Station toward Petersburg, and a division sent by General Meade from the front of Petersburg, when he broke in the utmost confusion, leaving in our hands his guns and many prisoners. This force retreated by the main road along the Appomattox River. During the night of the 2d, the enemy evacuated Petersburg and Richmond, and retreated toward Danville. On the morning of the 3d, pursuit was commenced. General Sheridan pushed for the Danville road, keeping near the Appomattox, followed by General Meade with the Second and Sixth Corps, while General Ord moved for Burkeville along the South Side road; the Ninth Corps stretched along that road behind him. On the 4th, General Sheridan struck the Danville road near Jetersville, where he learned that Lee was at Amelia Court-House. He immediately intrenched himself and awaited the arrival of General Meade, who reached there the next day. General Ord reached Burkeville on the evening of the 5th. On the morning of the 5th, I addressed Major-General Sherman the following communication:

WILSON'S STATION, *April* 5, 1865.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN:

GENERAL: All indications now are that Lee will attempt to reach Danville with the remnant of his force. Sheridan, who was up with him last night, reports all

that is left, horse, foot, and dragoons, at 20,000, much demoralized. We hope to reduce this number one-half. I shall push on to Burkeville, and if a stand is made at Danville, will in a very few days go there. If you can possibly do so, push on from where you are, and let us see if we cannot finish the job with Lee's and Johnston's armies. Whether it will be better for you to strike for Greensborough or nearer to Danville, you will be better able to judge when you receive this. Rebel armies now are the only strategic points to strike at.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

On the morning of the 6th, it was found that General Lee was moving west of Jetersville toward Danville. General Sheridan moved with his cavalry (the Fifth Corps having been returned to General Meade on his reaching Jetersville) to strike his flank, followed by the Sixth Corps, while the Second and Fifth Corps pressed hard after, forcing him to abandon several hundred wagons and several pieces of artillery. General Ord advanced from Burkeville toward Farmville, sending two regiments of infantry and a squadron of cavalry, under Bvt. Brig. Gen. Theodore Read, to reach and destroy the bridges. This advance met the head of Lee's column near Farmville, which it heroically attacked and detained until General Read was killed and his small force overpowered, This caused a delay in the enemy's movements, and enabled General Ord to get well up with the remainder of his force, on meeting which the enemy immediately intrenched himself. In the afternoon General Sheridan struck the enemy south of Sailor's Creek, captured 16 pieces of artillery, and about 400 wagons, and detained him until the Sixth Corps got up, when a general attack of infantry and cavalry was made, which resulted in the capture of 6,000 or 7,000 prisoners, among whom were many general officers. The movements of the Second Corps and General Ord's command contributed greatly to the day's success. On the morning of the 7th, the pursuit was renewed, the cavalry, except one division, and the Fifth Corps moving by Prince Edward Court-House; the Sixth Corps, General Ord's command, and one division of cavalry, on Farmville, and the Second Corps by the High Bridge road. It was soon found that the enemy had crossed to the north side of the Appomattox; but so close was the pursuit that the Second Corps got possession of the common bridge at High Bridge before the enemy could destroy it, and immediately crossed over. The Sixth Corps and a division of cavalry crossed at Farmville to its support.

Feeling now that General Lee's chance of escape was utterly hopeless, I addressed him the following communication from Farmville:

APRIL 7, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: The result of the last week must convince you of the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the Army of Northern Virginia in this struggle. I feel that it is so, and regard it as my duty to shift from myself the responsibility of any further effusion of blood by asking of you the surrender of that portion of the C. S. army known as the Army of Northern Virginia.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Early on the morning of the 8th, before leaving, I received, at Farmville, the following:

APRIL 7, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

GENERAL: I have received your note of this date. Though not entertaining the opinion you express on the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the

Army of Northern Virginia, I reciprocate your desire to avoid useless effusion of blood, and therefore, before considering your proposition, ask the terms you will offer on condition of its surrender.

R. E. LEE,
General.

To this I immediately replied:

APRIL 8, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Your note of last evening, in reply to mine of same date, asking the condition on which I will accept the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, is just received. In reply I would say that, peace being my great desire, there is but one condition I would insist upon, namely, that the men and officers surrendered shall be disqualified for taking up arms again against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged. I will meet you, or will designate officers to meet any officers you may name for the same purpose, at any point agreeable to you, for the purpose of arranging definitely the terms upon which the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia will be received.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Early on the morning of the 8th, the pursuit was resumed. General Meade followed north of the Appomattox, and General Sheridan, with all the cavalry, pushed straight for Appomattox Station, followed by General Ord's command and the Fifth Corps. During the day General Meade's advance had considerable fighting with the enemy's rear guard, but was unable to bring on a general engagement. Late in the evening General Sheridan struck the railroad at Appomattox Station, drove the enemy from there, and captured twenty-five pieces of artillery, a hospital train, and four trains of cars loaded with supplies for Lee's army. During this day I accompanied General Meade's column, and about midnight received the following communication from General Lee:

APRIL 8, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

GENERAL: I received at a late hour your note of to-day. In mine of yesterday I did not intend to propose the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, but to ask the terms of your proposition. To be frank, I do not think the emergency has arisen to call for the surrender of this army, but as the restoration of peace should be the sole object of all, I desired to know whether your proposals would lead to that end. I cannot, therefore, meet you with a view to surrender the Army of Northern Virginia, but as far as your proposal may affect the C. S. forces under my command, and tend to the restoration of peace, I should be pleased to meet you at 10 a. m., to-morrow, on the old stage road to Richmond, between the picket-lines of the two armies.

R. E. LEE,
General.

Early on the morning of the 9th, I returned him an answer as follows, and immediately started to join the column south of the Appomattox:

APRIL 9, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL. Your note of yesterday is received. I have no authority to treat on the subject of peace; the meeting proposed for 10 a. m. to-day could lead to no good. I will state, however, general, that I am equally anxious for peace with yourself, and the whole North entertains the same feeling. The terms upon which peace can be had are well understood. By the South laying down their arms they will hasten that most desirable event, save thousands of human lives, and hundreds of millions of property not yet destroyed. Seriously hoping that all our difficulties may be settled without the loss of another life, I subscribe myself, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

On the morning of the 9th, General Ord's command and the Fifth Corps reached Appomattox Station just as the enemy was making a desperate effort to break through our cavalry. The infantry was at once thrown in. Soon after a white flag was received, requesting a suspension of hostilities pending negotiations for a surrender. Before reaching General Sheridan's headquarters I received the following from General Lee:

APRIL 9, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

GENERAL: I received your note of this morning on the picket-line, whither I had come to meet you and ascertain definitely what terms were embraced in your proposal of yesterday with reference to the surrender of this army. I now ask an interview in accordance with the offer contained in your letter of yesterday for that purpose.

R. E. LEE,
General.

The interview was held at Appomattox Court-House, the result of which is set forth in the following correspondence:

APPOMATTOX COURT-HOUSE, VA., *April* 9, 1865.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: In accordance with the substance of my letter to you of the 8th instant, I propose to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia on the following terms, to wit: Rolls of all the officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be given to an officer to be designated by me, the other to be retained by such officer or officers as you may designate. The officers to give their individual paroles not to take up arms against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged; and each company or regimental commander sign a like parole for the men of their commands. The arms, artillery, and public property to be parked and stacked, and turned over to the officers appointed by me to receive them. This will not embrace the side-arms of the officers nor their private horses or baggage. This done, each officer and man will be allowed to return to his home, not to be disturbed by U. S. authority so long as they observe their paroles and the laws in force where they may reside.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
April 9, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

GENERAL: I received your letter of this date containing the terms of surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia as proposed by you. As they are substantially the same as those expressed in your letter of the 8th instant, they are accepted. I will proceed to designate the proper officers to carry the stipulations into effect.

R. E. LEE,
General.

The command of Major-General Gibbon, the Fifth Army Corps, under Griffin, and Mackenzie's cavalry, were designated to remain at Appomattox Court-House until the paroling of the surrendered army was completed, and to take charge of the public property. The remainder of the army immediately returned to the vicinity of Burkeville. General Lee's great influence throughout the whole South caused his example to be followed, and to-day the result is that the armies lately under his leadership are at their homes, desiring peace and quiet, and their arms are in the hands of our ordnance officers.*

On the receipt of my letter of the 5th, General Sherman moved directly against Joe Johnston, who retreated rapidly on and through Raleigh, which place General Sherman occupied on the morning of the 13th. The day preceding news of the surrender of General Lee

*Subordinate reports of the final operations against Lee's army will appear in Vol. XLVI.

reached him at Smithfield. On the 14th, a correspondence was opened between General Sherman and General Johnston, which resulted on the 18th in an agreement for a suspension of hostilities and a memorandum or basis for peace, subject to the approval of the President. This agreement was disapproved by the President on the 21st, which disapproval, together with your instructions, was communicated to General Sherman by me in person, on the morning of the 24th, at Raleigh, N. C., in obedience to your orders. Notice was at once given by him to General Johnston for the termination of the truce that had been entered into. On the 25th, another meeting between them was agreed upon, to take place on the 26th, which terminated in the surrender and disbandment of Johnston's army upon substantially the same terms as were given to General Lee.*

The expedition under General Stoneman from East Tennessee got off on the 20th of March, moving by way of Boone, N. C., and struck the railroad at Wytheville, Chambersburg, and Big Lick. The force striking it at Big Lick pushed on to within a few miles of Lynchburg, destroying the important bridges, while with the main force he effectually destroyed it between New River and Big Lick, and then turned for Greensborough, on the North Carolina railroad, struck that road, and destroyed the bridges between Danville and Greensborough and between Greensborough and the Yadkin, together with the depots of supplies along it, and captured 400 prisoners. At Salisbury he attacked and defeated a force of the enemy under General Gardner, capturing 14 pieces of artillery and 1,364 prisoners, and destroyed large amounts of army stores. At this place he destroyed 15 miles of railroad and the bridges toward Charlotte. Thence he moved to Slatersville.†

General Canby, who had been directed in January to make preparations for a movement from Mobile Bay against Mobile and the interior of Alabama, commenced his movement on the 20th of March. The Sixteenth Corps, Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith commanding, moved from Fort Gaines by water to Fish River; the Thirteenth Corps, under Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger, moved from Fort Morgan and joined the Sixteenth Corps on Fish River, both moving thence on Spanish Fort and investing it on the 27th; while Major-General Steele's command moved from Pensacola, cut the railroad leading from Tensas to Montgomery, effected a junction with them, and partially invested Fort Blakely. After a severe bombardment of Spanish Fort, a part of its line was carried on the 8th of April. During the night the enemy evacuated the fort. Fort Blakely was carried by assault on the 9th, and many prisoners captured; our loss was considerable. These successes practically opened to us the Alabama River, and enabled us to approach Mobile from the north. On the night of the 11th, the city was evacuated, and was taken possession of by our forces on the morning of the 12th.†

The expedition under command of Brevet Major-General Wilson, consisting of 12,500 mounted men, was delayed by rains until March 22, when it moved from Chickasaw, Ala. On the 1st of April General Wilson encountered the enemy in force under Forrest near Ebenezer Church, drove him in confusion, captured 300 prisoners and 3 guns, and destroyed the Central bridge over the Cahawba River.

*Subordinate reports of the final operations against Johnston's army will appear in Vol. XLVII.

†Subordinate reports of Stoneman's expedition and Canby's operations against Mobile will appear in Vol. XLIX.

On the 2d, he attacked and captured the fortified city of Selma, defended by Forrest with 7,000 men and thirty-two guns, destroyed the arsenal, armory, naval foundry, machine-shops, vast quantities of stores, and captured 3,000 prisoners. On the 4th, he captured and destroyed Tuscaloosa. On the 10th, he crossed the Alabama River, and after sending information of his operations to General Canby marched on Montgomery, which place he occupied on the 14th, the enemy having abandoned it. At this place many stores and five steam-boats fell into our hands. Thence a force marched direct on Columbus, and another on West Point, both of which places were assaulted and captured on the 16th. At the former place we got 1,500 prisoners and 52 field guns, destroyed 2 gun-boats, the navy-yard, foundries, arsenal, many factories, and much other public property. At the latter place we got 300 prisoners, 4 guns, and destroyed 19 locomotives and 300 cars. On the 20th, he took possession of Macon, Ga., with 60 field guns, 1,200 militia, and 5 generals, surrendered by General Howell Cobb. General Wilson hearing that Jeff. Davis was trying to make his escape, sent forces in pursuit, and succeeded in capturing him on the morning of May 11. On the 4th day of May, General Dick Taylor surrendered to General Canby all the remaining rebel forces east of the Mississippi.* A force sufficient to insure an easy triumph over the enemy under Kirby Smith, west of the Mississippi, was immediately put in motion for Texas, and Major-General Sheridan designated for its immediate command; but on the 26th day of May, and before they reached their destination, General Kirby Smith surrendered his entire command to Major-General Canby. This surrender did not take place, however, until after the capture of the rebel President and Vice-President, and the bad faith was exhibited of first disbanding most of his army and permitting an indiscriminate plunder of public property.

Owing to the report that many of those lately in arms against the Government had taken refuge upon the soil of Mexico, carrying with them arms rightfully belonging to the United States, which had been surrendered to us by agreement (among them some of the leaders who had surrendered in person), and the disturbed condition of affairs on the Rio Grande, the orders for troops to proceed to Texas were not changed.

There have been severe combats, raids, expeditions, and movements to defeat the designs and purposes of the enemy, most of them reflecting great credit on our arms, and which contributed greatly to our final triumphs, that I have not mentioned. Many of these will be found clearly set forth in the reports herewith submitted; some in the telegrams and brief dispatches announcing them, and others, I regret to say, have not as yet been officially reported. For information touching our Indian difficulties, I would respectfully refer to the reports of the commanders of departments in which they have occurred.

It has been my fortune to see the armies of both the West and the East fight battles, and from what I have seen I know there is no difference in their fighting qualities. All that it was possible for men to do in battle they have done. The Western armies commenced their battles in the Mississippi Valley, and received the final surrender of the remnant of the principal army opposed to them in North Carolina. The armies of the East commenced their battles on the river from which the Army of the Potomac derived its name, and

*Subordinate reports of Wilson's expedition will appear in Vol. XLIX.

received the final surrender of their old antagonist at Appomattox Court-House, Va. The splendid achievements of each have nationalized our victories, removed all sectional jealousies (of which we have unfortunately experienced too much), and the cause of criminination and recrimination that might have followed had either section failed in its duty. All have a proud record, and all sections can well congratulate themselves and each other for having done their full share in restoring the supremacy of law over every foot of territory belonging to the United States. Let them hope for perpetual peace and harmony with that enemy, whose manhood, however mistaken the cause, drew forth such herculean deeds of valor.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

JANUARY 1–30, 1864.—Operations in Northeastern Arkansas, including skirmishes at Lunenburg, Sylamore, and on Sylamore Creek.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Nebraska Cavalry, of scout from Batesville, January 23–30.

No. 3.—Capt. Samuel E. Turner, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, of skirmish on Sylamore Creek, and including operations January 16–February 6.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, Ark., January 26, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that since my last letter, under date December 31, 1863, I have kept the enemy constantly harassed. So effectually has this been done so far, that not one of my pickets or foraging parties has been disturbed since my arrival here. Numerous scouting parties have been sent out in every direction, wherever the enemy was reported to be, and we have invariably succeeded in demoralizing them.

Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer's expedition after Freeman, which I mentioned in mine of December 31, 1863, was a failure by reason of the extraordinary cold weather, some 60 men of his command having been more or less frost-bitten, and all of them so numbed by the cold while riding that they could not use their arms. He wisely returned, and I refer you to his report,* herewith transmitted, for other particulars.

On the 13th instant I sent an expedition out under Captain Majors, which captured a very interesting mail from Saint Louis to the Confederates under General Price. The letters therein will convict

* Not found.

several influential parties in Saint Louis. These letters are in the hands of District Provost-Marshal Allen, who will forward them to Colonel Broadhead, provost-marshal-general of the department, for his action.

On the 15th, I sent Lieutenant Harris out with a small reconnoitering party, ostensibly to procure beef-cattle, but in reality to obtain information of the enemy's movements under McRae, who was reported at Jacksonport. He was so far successful as to get the cattle and also valuable news of the enemy, as per his report,* forwarded herewith. I at once organized an expedition, under Captains Turner and Majors, of my regiment, the result of which is contained in his report.* I regret most sincerely the unfortunate circumstances attending the captain's scout. To have lost such men as he had captured was virtually losing the whole fruit of his labors, but I beg to say that if they stay within 100 miles of me I will have them again, dead or alive.

On the 19th, learning that a force of Freeman's command were feeling their way toward me, I immediately sent a small party, under Captain Baxter, Fourth Arkansas Infantry, who charged 200 of the enemy at Lunenburg, 30 miles from here, and drove them, killing and wounding several. I inclose his report,* to which I refer you for particulars. The man reported missing in Captain Baxter's report was killed while gallantly refusing to surrender to superior numbers. He killed his man before being disabled.

Fearing that the steamer Pocahontas, expected here by the 20th instant, might be detained and attacked by guerrillas from west side of White River, I dispatched Captain Castle, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry,† with 75 men, to scour the country in the neighborhood of the Grand Glaize. He succeeded in dispersing a band of them, capturing Col. Jim Rutherford and Lieutenant Stone. His report,* sent herewith, gives all the particulars. Thus, within the last twenty days, six expeditions have been sent out, besides numerous minor ones with forage parties. The effect of these movements is of the very best character, and the people see that, while I forgive those who surrender under the proclamation, I at the same time hunt down and destroy all who will not. I cannot convey in words the dread that armed rebels have of my command. We never stop to count numbers, but rush right into them and invariably rout them. If I had 500 more cavalry here I would be able to do the work assigned me far more effectually than at present. My horses have to be watched very carefully, for this heavy duty will soon break them down, and I frequently have to reduce the force at the post here to 100 men, and on one occasion it was less than that; but as the tents stand the encampments deceive the enemy, and the impression abroad is that there are many more Federals here than there really are. Recruiting goes on very slowly; hope it will increase soon. I do not ask for troops, but as I am right among the enemy I could use them to greater advantage than where they are at many stations in Missouri. I feel certain that with a sufficiency of men, so as to move on the enemy's encampments from different directions, I would capture and destroy all there is of them in Northern Arkansas in two months.

The enemy do not seem desirous of engaging us, and from their untiring efforts at conscripting the men in the country and arresting

*See Part II, pp. 105, 140. †On the 18th.

deserters from Price's army, I am satisfied that General Price either fears an attack from General Steele or he meditates one. The whole object of the Confederate officers seems to be to get to Price's army with their commands.

My belief is that the numerous guerrilla bands who have consorted with Freeman and McRae since the publication of my proclamation, which they did to save their lives, will most refuse to go, and I shall have them left to fight after I drive the rest out. Rumors are rife that Marmaduke is coming up north of the Little Red River to help these conscripts through to Price's army. There are 300 men reported 40 miles from here, on the Searcy and Grand Glaize road, under McRae. I will attack them from three points next Thursday, and direct the officer in charge to telegraph the result to you. Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer is now out with 200 men, trying to capture Freeman's forces. Will send dispatch as soon as I hear from him. I have 95,000 rations at the mouth of Black River, but the roads are impassable and river too low to boat them up.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Lieut. Col. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of the Missouri.

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BATESVILLE, ARK., *January* 30, 1864.

I have just heard from an expedition sent out under Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer against Freeman's command. We killed 30, wounded a large number, captured 60 men, and a large number of horses. Casualties on our side, 1 sergeant wounded slightly. The command of rebels was completely broken up and routed. Col. Miscal Johnston and Captain Mason, C. S. Army (a nephew of Senator Mason), surrendered under my proclamation yesterday.

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, January 30, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report, for the information of Major-General Steele, that I have made two very successful attacks on the enemy in this neighborhood, one at Jacksonport and the other at Sylamore. At the first-named place we captured about 60 prisoners, killing 16, and wounding a large number, without casualties on our side. At Sylamore we captured 40 men, 60 horses, a large number of arms, killing 12, and wounding many, with the wounding of 1 of our sergeants only. The attack on Jacksonport was made on the 19th, that at Sylamore on the 26th instant. There ought to be a force at Searcy, Ark. The conscript officers are untiring in their efforts to procure men. The enemy avoid engaging us, and seek only to get through the country to join Price, who either meditates an attack on Little Rock or fears one on his own forces. This I infer from the great energy displayed in his endeavors to increase

his forces by conscription. My force is small, but of the right material. We never stop to count numbers, but always close on the enemy at the charge and invariably rout them. Col. Miscal Johnston surrendered himself to me a few days ago. My proclamation is having a salutary effect on the inhabitants. My orders to all scouting parties are to shoot every rebel found in Federal uniform, and to destroy all bushwhackers wherever found.

Captain Dunscomb, Third Arkansas Cavalry, will give you further news of the enemy. They are numerous, but not concentrated at any one place. I have kept them apart by rapid movements, and they are terrified at the appearance of any parties of my command in this district. I should be pleased to co-operate with any detachments sent up to this neighborhood from Little Rock, and believe that frequently penetrating the country between us will render their proposed emigration to Price impossible.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,

Colonel First Nebraska Cavalry, Comdg. District.

Lieutenant Sokalski,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of Northeastern Arkansas for January, 1864.

January 2.—The mail was sent to Little Rock, Ark., under charge of Lieutenant Thompson, acting assistant quartermaster, with an escort of 1 sergeant and 10 privates of the First Nebraska Cavalry. Lieutenant Thompson returned with the steamer Pocahontas, loaded with commissary and quartermaster's stores. The boat, not able to run up to Batesville on account of low water, discharged her freight at Jacksonport and Magnes' Landing, Ark. Four squadrons First Nebraska Cavalry, under command of Captain Curran, detached to Jacksonport since January 17, in order to guard above stores. The boat Pocahontas returned to Devall's Bluff.

January 12.—Three men of the First Nebraska Cavalry and 1 scout belonging to this command, captured by Major Freeman's forces on December 31, 1863, came in under a flag of truce in charge of Captain Grace, C. S. Army.

January 13.—Captain Majors, with a detachment of 150 men, was sent out on a scout to attack an encampment of guerrillas about 28 miles from this place. The detachment returned the 14th instant with 6 prisoners and a captured rebel mail. Official report forwarded to headquarters Department of the Missouri, January 26.

January 17.—First Battalion First Nebraska Cavalry, under command of Captain Majors, was ordered on a scout to Jacksonport to attack General McRae's forces. On the evening of the same day a detachment of Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, in charge of Captain Kauffman, was sent out to re-enforce Captain Majors. Official report forwarded to headquarters Department of the Missouri, January 26.

January 18.—Captain Castle, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, with a detachment of same regiment, was ordered to march to Grand Glaize for the purpose of protecting the steamer Pocahontas coming up from Devall's Bluff.

January 23.—Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer, with Second Battalion First Nebraska Cavalry, and the above-named detachment, Sixth

Missouri State Militia Cavalry, left this post in order to attack and destroy all rebel encampments north and west of Batesville. Ordered to move via Hookram, Lunenburg, Sylamore, and Big North Fork. Returned January 30. Copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer's official report forwarded by the same mail as this report.

January 27.—Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens reported at this post with a detachment of 29 men, First Nebraska Cavalry, and 32 men, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry. Copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens' report in regard to his march from Rolla, Mo., to Batesville forwarded to headquarters Department of the Missouri, January 30.*

January 30.—Captain Kauffman, with 75 men, and Captain Castle, with 50 men, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, ordered on a scout to Grand Glaize and Searcy, Ark.; not returned yet. Captain Dunscomb left the same day with his detachment for Little Rock, Ark., carrying the mail from this post.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Nebraska Cavalry, of scout from Batesville, January 23–30.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEBRASKA CAVALRY,
Batesville, Ark., February 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit to you the report of an expedition sent out January 23, 1864, from Batesville, Ark., under the following orders received from district headquarters, viz:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, Ark., January 23, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM BAUMER,
Commanding Expedition to Northwest:

COLONEL: You will proceed immediately and attack every rebel encampment you find north and west of this point. Move via Hookram, Lunenburg, Sylamore, and Big North Fork. Should you find Freeman's command at any one of these points you need go no farther. Shoot every rebel soldier you find in Federal uniform, and destroy all armed bushwhackers. Endeavor to reach White River Monday morning so as to co-operate with the forces I send up to Sylamore. On North Fork of Sylamore you will find and destroy a powder-mill operating there. Should the town be occupied by guerrillas, and should they fire on your men, burn them out. Treat the inhabitants of the country with kindness and give receipts for all necessaries you have to take; and above all, prevent your men from pillaging or straggling. Instruct your men to spare no bushwhackers. Do not divide your force into fractional parts, but keep them in good order, as you are liable to attack at any moment. Federal troops are ordered into Searcy and Newton Counties by General Sanborn, which you may perhaps meet. I have placed the detachment of Sixth Regiment Missouri State Militia Cavalry under your command. As soon as you get them past Freeman you will permit them to go either to Yellville or Lebanon, as the captain commanding deems best. The object of this expedition is to capture or destroy Freeman's camp, and I rely on your good judgment to accomplish it.

Rapidity of movement is essential to your success, and be especially careful to guard all the prisoners you take. When they are encamped in a house sentinels should be placed inside as well as out, with orders to make them lie down at night, and shoot them if they rise without obtaining permission.

Wishing you success, I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

The command, consisting of Companies H, B, D, I, and a combined company of men from the First Battalion First Nebraska Cavalry, numbering in all 192 men and 10 officers, with an additional

*See Part II, p. 176.

detachment from the Sixth Missouri State Militia, comprising 95 men, under command of Captain Turner,* and 5 guides, making a force of 303 men, started from Batesville at 9 a. m. on the 23d day of January, 1864, and took up the line of march on the road leading northeast to Hookram. The command marched in the following order: First, the scouts and 25 picked men and horses as patrols and advance guard; fifty paces in rear of them the reserve of the advance guard, in number 40 men. The main column of four companies First Nebraska Cavalry and the Sixth Missouri State Militia in rear followed, with distance of 150 paces from the reserve of the advance guard.

At Curia Post-Office, 13 miles distant from Batesville, the advance guard saw a number of horses tied near a house in the woods. They charged and surrounded the building, which was then occupied by members of a Masonic lodge. Most of the members had taken the oath of allegiance and some of them were personally known to me as loyal citizens, and the command did not further interfere with their meeting. The march was continued in the same order except that Company I was detailed as rear guard. At 4 p. m. the command halted, the horses were fed, and the men cooked their rations, when the march was resumed at 5.30 o'clock and continued until 7.30 p. m. When the column was within 1½ miles from Evening Shade, or Hookram, I sent the advance and reserve on a by-road to take post in rear of the town, and after the position was taken the command dashed into town, one party taking the left the other the right hand road, and so completely surrounded the town and every house and searched after a party of rebels which were reported to have been in the place the preceding day. All the information I obtained there was that a fellow called Captain Adams had about 75 men in company with him, and had before encamped on a hill near Brushy Creek, about 6 miles northeast from the place. The command started in that direction and was halted 2 miles from town (marching in all 27 miles that day) to give the horses rest and forage. At 12 midnight two companies were sent to the camp-ground of the rebels, 4 miles distant, and returned at 5 a. m. January 24. They found the camp abandoned, the rebels having left it the day before and marched toward the Salem road. At 6 a. m. the command moved in the same order as before, with advance flankers and rear guard toward Franklin Post-Office, on the Salem and Batesville road. The flankers met 2 armed rebels, who ran off. They were pursued, and 1 of them was mortally wounded, and upon being questioned stated that Freeman was collecting a force near Lunenburg to attack Batesville, and had already assembled a force of 800 men.

At Franklin Post-Office I learned that Captain Adams had taken the military route toward Yellville the day before; and also that Colonel Freeman was concentrating his bands for a raid into Batesville, which induced me to hunt up the rebel force under his command.

At 1 p. m., the command halted for one hour to feed horses, and then marched to Lunenburg, arriving there at 5 p. m., having marched that day 28 miles. During the day some prisoners had been taken for running off in the woods and not giving an account of their actions and homes. The column started next morning at 5 a. m. toward Mount Olive, on White River. Two companies were

* See Turner's report, p. 67.

sent through the hills south of the main road. Three armed guerrillas were killed, and about 10 prisoners taken. At 1 p. m., the whole command forded White River to attack the rebel force then at Sylamore, 7 miles distant from Mount Olive. The advance guard charged into Sylamore, driving the rebels out, who fired into our forces from very steep and high hills. Three companies dismounted and advanced as skirmishers, killing and wounding several rebels and driving them from the hills. In the first attack Sergeant Millen, Company G, First Nebraska Cavalry, was shot in the upper part of the right leg and placed in a house, where he was left. The whole command again mounted and pursued the flying rebels for about 5 miles. I then moved forward toward Riggsville to meet the command of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, expected to co-operate with the force under my command, and encamped about 9 miles south of Sylamore, where forage was obtained for the animals. The distance marched that day was 30 miles, over a very rocky and hilly road.

At 3 a. m., January 26, I started the whole force back to Sylamore, expecting that the rebels had gathered there again. I sent skirmishers on foot over the hills, and found that the rebels had not come in. From some information received I learned that Freeman had his whole force encamped near a mill on North Sylamore River, and sent Companies D and I, under command of Captain Potts, as a reconnoitering party to the mill. They were fired upon several times from the hills when passing, but without receiving any harm. Freeman was encamped there before, but had moved his camp to a mill on the Middle Sylamore, about 14 miles from the mouth of the creek and town of Sylamore. The two companies fed their horses and took their breakfast at the mill and returned to the command at 12 m., bringing some prisoners with them and reporting that the mill had caught fire and was burned down. The remainder of the command had in the mean time rested in town. During the absence of the reconnoitering party some bandits were seen on the top of the hills observing our movements. Some men of the First Nebraska and some of the Sixth Missouri State Militia asked permission to ascend the hills, which I granted, ordering them, however, to remain within hearing distance of the bugles. They came back with 2 captured U. S. horses and saddles, and a cavalry uniform taken from one of the men who had worn it. There were 4 dead bodies left on the hill; on one of them was found a recruiting commission as Captain Evans, given by Colonel Freeman. None of our men were hurt. At 1.30 p. m., after I had sent the wounded sergeant in a flat-boat down the river, escorted by 3 citizens taken as prisoners, the command moved out to the Burrowsville and Batesville road to attack Freeman's camp early the next morning. Marched 13 miles and camped near the Blue Mountains (having marched that day a distance of 32 miles), and were then only 6 miles distant from the rebel camp. There was a rumor in the neighborhood that Freeman had over 1,000 men, and would attack us during the night. The whole command was formed in order of battle on a favorable ground for a cavalry fight. The pickets were carefully posted, and every man rested on his arms to be ready at a moment's warning. Nothing occurred that night and the column moved at 5.30 o'clock, January 27. After advancing nearly 6 miles the advance guard came upon a rebel picket of 10 men, of whom 7 were captured and 2 killed;

1 man alone escaped. The command was rapidly brought up, and went the nearest route to Freeman's camp, north of Rohrer's Mill, on Middle Sylamore Creek. Several shots were fired from there at our advance and the whole force dashed into the camp, but the rebels had slipped out on a by-road, and were hiding themselves. From information obtained and judging by the tracks I ascertained that Freeman's train and a portion of his forces had moved northward along the creek. I sent the advance guard and one squadron in charge of Captain Ribble in pursuit of them, and collected the remainder of my force, placing the prisoners and led horses in the center of the column, and followed the advance guard. The train was overtaken, the wagons containing camp equipage and officers' clothing were destroyed by fire, 12 mules and a number of horses were captured, 8 men were killed (among them a Captain Franks, who had a recruiting commission with him); also 7 men were taken prisoners.

I learned that Freeman intended to encamp on Big Flat and had his wagons directed to that point. I therefore hastened to that place before the rebels could get possession, and obtained all the forage, reaching Big Flat at 3 p. m., having marched 25 miles. Both horses and men were very much exhausted, and it was necessary to halt for two hours. Two squadrons were then sent out into the hills toward the Burrowsville road to reconnoiter and ascertain the enemy's whereabouts. In this they were unsuccessful. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 28th, I started my forces back over the hill road and found that the enemy had been trying to pass our camp in the night, but failing in this had returned. I followed his tracks to Cooper's Mill, where I heard that Freeman had retreated to the town of Sylamore. A party of 25 men was sent out to the old encampment of Freeman at Rohrer's Mill. They had found no rebels, and that Rohrer's Mill was burned and destroyed.

The command of the Sixth Missouri State Militia, under Captain Turner, there took the road toward Burrowsville, where a portion of the Eighth Missouri State Militia were reported to have been. I recommended that Captain Turner, after joining the Eighth Missouri State Militia, should march toward North Fork of White River to intercept Freeman. I continued the march with the remainder of my command, with prisoners and captured horses, toward Sylamore, sending two squadrons into that place to ascertain if the enemy had possession of it. All I could learn was that Freeman had probably crossed the river at Mount Olive, moving to the North Fork of White River. After marching 33 miles my command encamped 5 miles south of Sylamore. At 4 a. m., January 29, a detachment of two squadrons was sent to a place called Round Bottom. The remainder of the command continued on the Batesville road to Hinkle's farm, and from there to South Rocky Bayou, where the two squadrons from Round Bottom joined them. Some guerrillas and bandits were seen upon the hills; 2 of them were killed and several wounded. A number of horses were captured on the same occasion. The combined forces then marched to White River and forded it at the mouth of Rocky Bayou, encamping upon the plantation of the rebel Colonel Black. The distance marched that day was 20 miles. On the morning of the 30th, at 2.30 o'clock, the command started and marched down the river to Wall's Ferry and there took the main road toward Batesville, arriving there at 2 p. m., after marching 25 miles. The main object of the expedition was not accomplished, on

account of the cowardice of the enemy, who would never make a stand for a fight, and fled whenever they heard of our approach. They would have been annihilated if my force could have come upon them, but the formation of the hills and mountains and their thorough acquaintance with them gave them a great advantage and enabled them to avoid us and escape. I learned that Freeman had 380 men fully armed and equipped, and 60 men indifferently armed.

The loss on our side on the expedition was 1 man (Sergeant Millen, Company G, First Nebraska Cavalry) wounded, and 1 horse shot through the neck. Five horses became completely exhausted, and had to be shot. The rebel loss is 25 men killed and a number wounded; 36 prisoners were brought into Batesville, and 4 others were paroled to report at district headquarters. The rebel transportation train was captured and destroyed. The papers of Freeman's quartermaster and the colonel's commission were taken, and 12 good mules and about 60 horses were taken and brought with the command to Batesville. The weather was very fine, the roads in good condition, and the men in the best of spirits. In the eight days of our absence from Batesville the command traveled 236 miles, averaging nearly 30 miles per day.

The officers and men both of the First Nebraska and Sixth Missouri State Militia behaved very well and every order was obeyed promptly.

Annexed to this report is a sketch * of that portion of the country over which my command traveled, and will show how often the column changed the direction of its march in vain endeavors to bring on an engagement with the enemy.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BAUMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel First Nebraska Cavalry.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District Northeastern Arkansas.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Samuel E. Turner, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, of skirmish on Sylamore Creek, and including operations January 16–February 6.

HDQRS. COMPANY D, SIXTH MO. STATE MILITIA CAV.,
Springfield, Mo., February 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 13, headquarters District of Southwest Missouri, dated January 15, 1864, I proceeded, in command of 92 men of the Sixth Cavalry Regiment Missouri State Militia, to take a dispatch to Batesville, Ark., and marched from Springfield January 16, via Ozark, Beaver Creek, Braton's Store, north of White River, and Springfield Creek, to Batesville, Ark., distance 191 miles, where we

* Not found.

arrived January 21, having captured on our way down 2 captains, 1 third lieutenant, and 5 men belonging to the Confederate Army, with 17 stands of arms, 13 horses and mules; also a small rebel mail, and a large amount of Confederate postage stamps at a post-office near Lick Creek, Ark.

January 23, I was joined by 200 men of the First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry, commanded by Lieut. Col. W. Baumer, and marched from Batesville, Ark., via Hookram, north and west, via Wild Haws and Richland, to Sylamore Creek, and attacked a rebel force said to number at least 300 men, commanded by Colonel Freeman, camped on Sylamore Creek. We skirmished with his retreating command for 8 miles, capturing all his transportation, consisting of three wagons and 10 mules, and all his camp and garrison equipage, his own private trunk containing his commission, private letters, official documents, and important [papers], consisting of orders; also $5,000 in Confederate money, 49 men, about 70 stand of arms, 1,000 head of horses and mules; killed and wounded 20 or 25 men, making in all captured a total of 57 prisoners, 8 of whom were officers; about 90 stand of arms, 125 horses and mules, completely destroying the enemy's entire camp, and scattering his demoralized force in every direction through the mountains. Our loss was 1 man severely wounded.

January 28, left Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer and command near the head of Sylamore Creek, he returning to Batesville, Ark., with the prisoners and captured property. I moved in a northwest direction 35 miles and joined Captain Human, commanding detachment of 175 men of the Eighth Cavalry Regiment Missouri State Militia at Burrowsville, Searcy County, Ark., sending scouts in every direction. We had continued skirmishing several days with the scattered forces of the enemy and numerous bands of guerrillas, often numbering 125 men.

February 2, left Captain Human's command in the northern part of Searcy County, Ark. He turned over to me 6 prisoners of war that he had captured in Taney and Searcy Counties, Ark., 2 of whom were officers. I proceeded on the road to Springfield, Mo., intending to ford White River, opposite Forsyth, but could not, on account of recent late rains, which had raised the river almost to the top of its banks. At daylight February 4, we commenced to cross the river in two small canoes, forcing the horses to swim, being led by the side of the canoes. The whole command crossed in this manner in safety by sunset, being often annoyed during the day by 25 or 30 bushwhackers that fired upon us, whenever an opportunity offered, from a very high bluff commanding the river. But I succeeded, however, in capturing 3 of them, armed and mounted, probably wounding several others during the day. We arrived at Springfield, Mo., February 6, 1864, having been gone twenty-three days and marched 500 miles.

In parts of Taney and Searcy Counties and on the White River forage is quite plenty. In many other sections it is very scarce. There is but very little forage within 60 miles south of Springfield.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

SAMUEL E. TURNER,
Captain Company D, Sixth Cav. Regt. Mo. State Militia.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

JANUARY 5, 1864.—Skirmish on the Pecos River, near Fort Sumner, N. Mex.

Report of Maj. Henry D. Wallen, Seventh U. S. Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., January 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose the official report of a sharp little action with the Navajo Indians, near Fort Sumner, N. Mex., on the Pecos River. You will see that great credit is due to Lieut. Charles Newbold, Fifth U. S. Infantry, to Mr. Labadie, Indian agent, to Ojo Blanco, an Apache chief, and to several citizens and soldiers named in Major Wallen's report. The extreme severity of the weather doubtless was the reason why it happened that any of the Navajoes escaped. Lieutenant Newbold's name is respectfully submitted for favorable consideration by the War Department.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES H. CARLETON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Sumner, N. Mex., January 6, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have again the honor of reporting to the general commanding the department a successful scout made from this post against the Navajo Indians. Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, Ojo Blanco, one of the Apache chiefs, reported to me that the Navajoes had run off the Apache herd about 4 miles in a southerly direction from the post. I immediately started Lieutenant Newbold, Fifth U. S. Infantry, with 10 mounted men of Company B, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers, and Company D, Fifth U. S. Infantry (all the men that could be mounted at the post), Mr. Labadie, the Indian agent, Mr. Carillo, Mr. Whittemore, and about 25 Apaches in pursuit. I also ordered Captain Calloway with his company (I, First Infantry, California Volunteers), with two days' rations, to follow the trail of the mounted party. Lieutenant Newbold encountered over 100 Navajoes, mounted and on foot, about 12 miles in a southeasterly direction from the post, and about 2 miles from the river. A sharp skirmish ensued, in which 9 Navajoes were left dead on the field. The Navajoes then broke into two parties and fled, briskly pursued by Lieutenant Newbold and Mr. Labadie, and a running fight was kept up with both parties for about 10 miles. Mr. Labadie and Mr. Carillo, with Privates Porter, McGrew, and Osier, of Company B, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers, and about 15 Apaches, pursued one party, Privates Porter and McGrew, with 8 Apaches, keeping up the pursuit to the point where the Navajoes again crossed the Pecos, about 35 miles from the post. Of this party of Navajoes only 18 escaped. These men did well. Lieutenant Newbold, with Sergeant Welch, Corporal Flynn, and Private Fitzgeraldine, Company D, Fifth U. S. Infantry, Private Reilly, Company C, Seventh U. S. Infantry,

and Privates Misenheimer, Ross, and Dioux, Company B, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers, Ojo Blanco, and two other Apaches, pursued the other party, 36 in number, until near dark. Of this party 17 escaped. You will thus see that only 35 Navajoes escaped, and some of these were wounded. Forty are reported to me by Lieutenant Newbold to have been left dead on the field. From the nature of the ground, bottom land with high grass, it was impossible for him to find the balance, who were doubtless killed or badly wounded to the number of at least 25. At 4 p. m., it being intensely cold (so much so as to severely freeze the hands of Mr. Labadie, and the hands, feet, and ears of several others), the horses and mules of the soldiers being very tired, and a great deal of ammunition having been expended, and night drawing near, it was deemed advisable by Lieutenant Newbold, commanding the party, to return to the post, which course met with my entire approbation. The cold was so extreme during the entire day that it was with great difficulty the men could load and fire their pieces. Had the weather been milder, it is my belief that all the Navajoes would have been killed. This is the same party whipped by nearly the same command on the 16th ultimo. They have lost in this latter fight 65 men killed or severely wounded. The balance of their blankets, and about 50 head of horses and mules recovered, all belonging to the Apaches, except 2 Government mules and 6 of Mr. La Rue's.

Captain Calloway with his company left here with alacrity at the double-quick, and did his best to reach the scene of action in time, but in my judgment it is impossible for infantry to accomplish anything against these sudden raids. I would respectfully request that, if compatible with the interests of the service, an additional company of cavalry may be stationed at the post, as this seems to be the great thoroughfare for the Navajoes in their marauding expeditions. I would add that some of the friendly Navajoes started in pursuit on foot, but could not keep near the horsemen. They all returned to the post, in nowise discomposed by the drubbing which their thieving brethren had received. In this scout we lost none killed and but 2 Apaches slightly wounded. Lieutenant Newbold, before attacking the Indians the second time, told them through the interpreter that they were in our power, and that if they would surrender he would take them to their friends at the fort. This offer they contemptuously rejected.

I beg to call the attention of the commanding general to the gallant and handsome manner in which Lieutenant Newbold, Fifth U. S. Infantry, managed this very successful engagement. Such conduct deserves well of the Government. Mr. Labadie, Indian agent, was particularly distinguished; also Mr. Carillo, Mr. Whittemore, Ojo Blanco, and the Apaches generally who were engaged, and all the soldiers of Lieutenant Newbold's command, 11 in number, and who have already been mentioned by name. They were cool and obeyed orders, and did their duty in a highly creditable manner. Where all behaved so well it would be invidious to particularize.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. D. WALLEN,

Major Seventh U. S. Infantry, Commanding.

Capt. Benjamin C. Cutler,

Asst. Adjt. Gen. Department of New Mexico.

JANUARY 6–21, 1864.—Expedition against the Navajo Indians.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. James H. Carleton, U. S. Army, commanding Department of New Mexico.
No. 2.—Col. Christopher Carson, First New Mexico Cavalry.
No. 3.—Capt. Albert H. Pfeiffer, First New Mexico Cavalry.
No. 4.—Capt. Asa B. Carey, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. James H. Carleton, U. S. Army, commanding Department of New Mexico.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO,
Las Cruces, N. Mex., February 7, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to inclose a copy of the report of Col. Christopher Carson, commanding the expedition against the Navajo Indians, of his success in marching a command through the Cañon de Chelle, the great stronghold of that tribe, and of the killing of 23 of the warriors and the capture of a large number of prisoners. These prisoners are now en route to the Bosque Redondo. This report is accompanied by reports of Capt. Asa B. Carey, U. S. Army, marked B and C, and of Capt. Albert H. Pfeiffer, of the First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers. I also inclose a copy of a letter from Colonel Carson, written subsequent to his return to Fort Canby.

It will be seen by these papers that the operations of the troops during the severely cold weather has been of the most praiseworthy character, and been crowned with unparalleled success. This is the first time any troops, whether when the country belonged to Mexico or since we acquired it, have been able to pass through the Cañon de Chelle, which, for its great depth, its length, its perpendicular walls, and its labyrinthian character, has been regarded by eminent geologists as the most remarkable of any fissure (for such it is held to be) upon the face of the globe. It has been the great fortress of the tribe since time out of mind. To this point they fled when pressed by our troops. Colonel Washington, Colonel Sumner, and many other commanders have made an attempt to go through it, but had to retrace their steps. It was reserved for Colonel Carson to be the first to succeed, and I respectfully request the Government will favorably notice that officer and give him a substantial reward for this crowning act in a long life spent in various capacities in the service of his country in fighting the savages among the fastnesses of the Rocky Mountains.

Capt. Asa B. Carey, of the Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, the chief quartermaster of the expedition against the Navajoes, volunteered for this march, and, as usual with this gallant and energetic officer, was particularly distinguished. I hope the Government will reward him with the compliment of a brevet. He is entitled to a brevet for his gallantry in assisting the intrepid Capt. William H. Lewis, Fifth U. S. Infantry, who burned the Texan train in Apache Cañon on the 28th of March, 1862, and he richly deserves that, and also a brevet for his distinguished services in the operations against the Navajoes. I am sure the Government will not be unmindful of the labors of these officers and the brave soldiers who followed them, even though

the field of their operations is far removed from the more important and brilliant events of the great war. Sergt. Andreas Herrera, of Company C, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, it will be seen, has again distinguished himself, and it affords me great pleasure to call attention to his name.

I believe this will be the last Navajo war. The persistent efforts which have been and will continue to be made can hardly fail to bring in the whole tribe before the year ends.

I beg respectfully to call the serious attention of the Government to the destitute condition of the captives, and beg for authority to provide clothing for the women and children. Every preparation will be made to plant large crops for their subsistence at the Bosque Redondo the coming spring. Whether the Indian Department will do anything for these Indians or not, you will know, but whatever is to be done should be done at once. At all events, as I before wrote to you, "we can feed them cheaper than we can fight them."

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. CARLETON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Christopher Carson, First New Mexico Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS NAVAJO EXPEDITION,
Fort Canby, N. Mex., January 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that on the 6th instant I left this post on an expedition to the Cañon de Chelle, with commissioned officers, 14, and enlisted men, 375. Owing to the depth of the snow on the mountain which divides the valleys of this section with those of the Pueblo Colorado, it took my command three days to reach that place, a distance heretofore accomplished in one day. While en route on the 8th, my escort killed 1 warrior. On my arrival at the Pueblo Colorado, I was joined by the ox train and its escort, under Maj. José D. Sena, which I had sent forward on the 3d, with the expectation that he would have had time to recuperate his animals before the arrival of my command. In this I was disappointed, as it took his command five days to make 25 miles, and with a loss of 27 oxen. This made it necessary for me to lighten the loads and leave one wagon to enable me to accomplish my object, which I did, leaving behind ten days' rations for my command and 25 men as a guard. On the 12th, I arrived at the west opening of the Cañon de Chelle. In the morning I made a detour to the right of the line of march, with my staff and escort, and struck the cañon about 6 miles from the mouth. Wishing to reconnoiter a little previous to commencing operations, I proceeded up the cañon on the south side some 4 or 5 miles farther, but could find no possible means for descending to the bottom of the cañon, the heighth of the sides averaging about 1,000 feet and nearly perpendicular. I saw several Indians on the opposite or north side of the cañon, but out of range of our small-arms.

Shortly after my return to camp Sergt. Andreas Herrera, of Company C, whom I sent out with 50 men the previous night, returned, bringing in 2 women and 2 children prisoners, and 130 sheep and goats, and having killed 11 Indians. As I expected, at daylight he discovered a fresh trail, and following it rapidly he overtook the Indians as they were about to enter the cañon, when he immediately attacked them, with the result as above stated. This is the second occasion which I have had to record my sense of the energy and ability displayed by the sergeant in the successful carrying out of my orders, and I respectfully recommend him to the favorable notice of the general commanding. On the morning of the 13th, I sent out two commands to operate on each side of the cañon, with three days' rations in haversacks. The first, consisting of Companies B and G, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, under command of Capt. A. B. Carey, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, on the south, and the second, composed of Companies C and D, under command of Capt. Joseph Berney, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, on the north side. I accompanied the former party, being very anxious about the safety of Captain Pfeiffer's command, whom I had sent from Fort Canby to operate from the east opening, and wishing to gain a knowledge of the topography of the cañon with a view to operations within it. This day I discovered the place where Sergeant Herrera had the fight the day previous. Found 11 dead bodies and 5 wounded (2 mortally). The other 3, though badly wounded, owing to the skill and care bestowed upon them by Dr. Shout, will no doubt recover. On the 14th, the command continued its march to a point whence the view up the cañon was unobstructed to near its eastern outlet, and being unable to discover any signs of Captain Pfeiffer's command, or any fresh sign of Indians, and there being no grass for the animals of my escort, I determined to return. I also satisfied myself of the feasibility of flanking the south side of the cañon from west to east without much trouble, there being no intersecting cañons of any extent.

On my return to the main camp on the evening of this day I found, to my great surprise and satisfaction, Captain Pfeiffer and his party in camp, having accomplished an undertaking never before accomplished in war time—that of passing through the Cañon de Chelle from east to west, and this without having had a single casualty in his command. He killed 3 Indians (2 men) and brought in 19 prisoners, women and children. He found 2 bodies of Indians frozen to death in the cañon. I respectfully inclose his report (marked A), which is very interesting. While en route on my return to camp I was joined by 3 Indians with a flag of truce, requesting permission to come in with their people and submit. I told them through my interpreter that they and their people might come unmolested to my camp up to 10 a. m. next day, but after that time, if they did not come, my soldiers would hunt them up and the work of destruction recommence. Accordingly, next morning, before the time appointed, 60 Indians arrived. They had made known to them the intentions of the Government in regard to them, and expressed their willingness to emigrate to the Bosque Redondo. They declare that owing to the operations of my command they are in a complete state of starvation, and that many of their women and children have already died from this cause. They also state that they would have come in long since, but that they believed that it was a war of extermination, and that they were agreeably surprised and delighted to learn the contrary from an old captive whom I had sent back to

them for this purpose. I issued them some meat, and as they asked permission to return to their haunts and collect the remainder of their people, I directed them to meet me at this post in ten days. They have all arrived here according to promise, many of them with others joining and traveling in with Captain Carey's command. This command of 75 men I conferred upon Captain Carey at his own request, he being desirous of passing through this stupendous cañon. I sent the party to return through the cañon from west to east, that all the peach orchards, of which there were many, might be destroyed, as well as the dwellings of the Indians. I sent a competent person with the command to make some sketches of the cañon, which, with a written description of it by Captain Carey in the shape of a report (marked B), I respectfully inclose. This evening (15th) Captain Berney returned with his command, having accomplished the object of his scout with his usual energy and ability. His party surprised and killed 2 Indians and captured 4.

Having now accomplished all that was possible in this vicinity I determined to return to Fort Canby for the purpose of being present to receive the Indians as they arrived and to take measures to send out expeditions in other directions, as I feel certain that now is the time to prosecute the campaign with vigor and effect the speedy removal of all the Indians north and west of Little Red River. On my first return to camp I was visited by 4 warriors, who stated that they came from the vicinity of Juanico Mountains; that they had great fears of being killed on approaching our camp, but that their necessities overcame their fears. They say that many rich Indians would come in, but were afraid. He who appeared to be the most intelligent I furnished with provisions as evidence of having been in my camp, and he willingly agreed to go to these Indians and assure them of the protection of the troops, providing they came in with the bona-fide intention of emigrating. At this camp I left the captives with three companies and the ox train, under Major Sena, and pushed ahead myself with two companies and the mule train. I directed Major Sena to remain four whole days at the Pueblo Colorado to recuperate his animals. He has not yet arrived. I arrived at this post on the 21st instant, after an absence of sixteen days. I found on my arrival about 110 Indians, who accompanied Captain Carey's command. Since then several parties have arrived, until the number now drawing rations is 170. This does not include small children. I have been anxiously looking for a train which should have arrived here two days since. Should it not arrive by Tuesday I shall send these Indians by transportation from the post.

In summing up the immediate results of my operations on this expedition, I find the following: Killed, 23; prisoners, 34; voluntarily surrendered, 200 souls; captured, 200 head of sheep. In addition, we have thoroughly explored their heretofore unknown stronghold, and Cañon de Chelle has ceased to be a mystery. But it is to the ulterior effects of the expedition that I look for the greatest results. We have shown the Indians that in no place, however formidable or inaccessible in their opinion, are they safe from the pursuit of the troops of this command, and have convinced a large portion of them that the struggle on their part is a hopeless one. We have also demonstrated that the intentions of the Government toward them are eminently humane, and dictated by an earnest desire to promote their welfare; that the principle is not to destroy, but to save them, if they are disposed to be saved. When all this is

understood by the Navajoes generally, as it soon will be, and when they become convinced that destruction will follow on resistance, they will gladly avail themselves of the opportunities afforded them of peace and plenty under the fostering care of the Government, as do all those now with whom I have had any means of communicating. They are arriving almost hourly, and will, I believe, continue to arrive until the last Indian in this section of the country is en route to the Bosque Redondo. The benefits to the Government and the Territory of this wise policy introduced by the general commanding with regard to those Indians cannot be too highly estimated. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that any treaties heretofore made with those people, so long as they were permitted to remain in their country, were entirely disregarded so soon as the force applied to them was removed, and both by inclination and from want they recommenced to murder and rob the citizens. The policy of placing them on reservations changes all this. The force will still bear upon them, but without oppressing them, and their wants will be supplied until such time as by their industry they are able to supply themselves.

In the accompanying communication from Capt. A. B. Carey, chief quartermaster, marked C, you will perceive that Sergt. J. Martin Bird, of Company K, of my regiment, has had a fight with a party of Navajoes at Ojo del Oso, in which he was successful. The conduct of the sergeant is deserving of praise.

To the officers and men of my command I return my thanks for the zealous and efficient manner in which they have seconded my efforts on this as well as on all former occasions. To Capt. A. B. Carey, my chief quartermaster, I am greatly indebted, not only for the able and efficient manner displayed by him in the management of his department, but for valuable assistance on other occasions; as also to my chief commissary, Lieut. F. Cook, Fifth U. S. Infantry. I am especially indebted to the zeal and intelligence of my acting assistant adjutant-general, Lieut. Lawrence G. Murphy, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, and I particularly recommend him to the notice of the general commanding as a most efficient and energetic officer. My thanks are also due to Surg. A. F. Peck and Asst. Surg. J. H. Shout for their untiring attention to their duties.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

C. CARSON,

Colonel First Cavalry, New Mexico Vols., Comdg.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of New Mexico.

HEADQUARTERS NAVAJO EXPEDITION,

Fort Canby, N. Mex., January [23], 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival, late this evening, of Major Sena's command. He brought with him 344 Navajoes, including the 34 prisoners referred to in my report of this date. Cabara Blanco, a chief, and one of this party, assures me that Navajoes from various points, to the number of over 1,000, are en route to this post to emigrate. I have now over 500 Navajoes at this post, but shall have them en route to Santa Fé in two days at

farthest. I do not think I am premature in congratulating the general commanding on the speedy and successful result of his measures to restore permanent peace and security to the people of New Mexico.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CARSON,
Colonel First Cavalry, New Mexico Vols., Comdg.

Assistant Adjutant-General,
Headquarters Department of New Mexico.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Albert H. Pfeiffer, First New Mexico Cavalry.

Fort Canby, N. Mex., *January* 20, 1864.

Sir: In pursuance to General Orders, No. 29, headquarters Navajo expedition, dated January 2, 1864, I left Fort Canby, N. Mex., on the morning of the 6th instant, with Company H and 33 men of Company E, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, en route for the east opening of Cañon de Chelle.

On the first day I marched to the wheat fields, but saw nothing unusual or of importance; distance traveled, 9 miles. On the 7th instant marched to the second hay camp, a distance of 16 miles. During the journey I saw a few Indian tracks, and sent Lieut. C. P. Ortiz with a party of men to reconnoiter, and see if he could discover any Indians or overtake them if discovered. Snow about 6 inches deep, and hard marching for the men (having had to pack their blankets and overcoats from the time they started until they met the main body of the expedition), which they endured with heroic resolution. On the 8th, I marched about 10 miles, to a creek near the Cienego Juanico. As we approached the mountain range the snow became deeper and the marching more irksome and fatiguing. On the 9th, with the snow very deep, I traveled about 10 miles. On the 11th, marched about 11 miles, to the east entrance of Cañon de Chelle, where we encamped. During the trip, on account of the deep snow, which increased in volume as we journeyed along, and which had fallen to the depth of 18 inches or 2 feet deep, I lost the trails several times, which somewhat impeded the march. Having observed a smoke in the distance I dispatched Sergeant Trujillo, of Company H, with 15 men, to discover, if possible, the locality from which the smoke arose. He returned and brought back with him 8 Indian prisoners (women and children) in an almost famishing condition. It being severely cold two of my men had their feet frozen.

On the 11th, I divided my command into three parties, with an advance guard of 15 men, with picks and shovels, as pioneer sappers and miners, the main body and my animals being in the rear guard. To each party I assigned a lieutenant (Lieutenants Hubbell, Ortiz, and Laughlin), with instructions to keep as closely connected as possible, and to move as one body, my presence being required at the most dangerous points, where I could move free and observe the stratagems of the concealed foe. My travel through the cañon, for the first 12 miles, was accomplished on the ice of the bed of the stream which courses through it. During the passage of the

cañon I observed plenty of oak, cotton-wood, and scrub-oak, which grew on both sides on the mountain's declivity, the hillsides at the entrance and for the first 12 miles jutting down almost perpendicular to the level of the cañon, which was very narrow and confined to the channel of the creek. The advance party on that day, under Lieutenant Laughlin, who volunteered to take precedence, caught 4 prisoners. Lieut. C. M. Hubbell, who was in charge of the rear, had a great deal of trouble in proceeding with the pack trains, as the mules frequently broke through the ice and tumbled down with their loads. All the Indian prisoners taken thus far were half-starved and naked. The cañon has no road except the bottom of the creek. We traveled mostly on the ice, our animals breaking through every few minutes, and one mule split completely open under the exhausting fatigue of the march. On the 12th instant traveled about 8 miles; had several skirmishes with the enemy. Indians on both sides of the cañon whooping, yelling, and cursing, firing shots and throwing rocks down upon my command. Killed 2 buck Indians in the encounter and 1 squaw, who obstinately persisted in hurling rocks and pieces of wood at the soldiers. Six prisoners were captured on this occasion. Lieutenant Hubbell followed up some Indians in a tributary cañon, but could not overtake them on account of the steepness of the hillsides, where nothing save an Indian or a mountain goat could make their way. I encamped that evening in a secure place, where plenty of wood was to be obtained—the remains of old Indian lodges. Here I saw several castles or villages, one of which I named Castle Carey, in honor of Capt. A. B. Carey, chief quartermaster of the expedition, which was located high up among the rocks, solidly built, and remarkable for its substantial and beautiful masonry, and denoting taste on the part of the rude barbarians, where most probably some of the chiefs of the tribe resided in summer, the village being inaccessible to the foot-prints of the white man; and near to it in the cañon was a large orchard of peach trees, but on account of the fighting and the necessity of being on the constant lookout I was unable to destroy them. From this point westward the cañon widens, the rocky precipice being about 1,200 or 1,500 feet high. At some places it spreads out like a beautiful savanna, where the corn-fields of the savages are laid out with farmer-like taste, and supplied with acequias for irrigation. At other places the cañon is confined to a narrow compass in a zigzag, meandering course, with high projecting rocks and houses built thereon, perforated with caverns and mountain fastnesses 300 or 400 feet above the ground as hiding places. Here the Navajoes sought refuge when pursued by the invading force, whether of neighboring tribes or the arms of the Government, and here they were enabled to jump about on the ledges of the rocks like mountain cats, hallooing at me, swearing and cursing and threatening vengeance on my command in every variety of Spanish they were capable of mastering. A couple of shots from my soldiers with their trusty rifles caused the red-skins to disperse instantly, and gave me a safe passage through this celebrated Gibraltar of Navajodom. At the place where I encamped the curl of the smoke from my fires ascended to where a large body of Indians were resting over my head, but the height was so great that the Indians did not look larger than crows, and as we were too far apart to injure each other no damage was done, except with the tongue, the articulation of which was scarcely audible.

On the 13th, traveled about 10 miles, making 30 miles in all—the whole length of the cañon, more or less—according to my estimate of distances. As I proceeded west the cañon became more gently sloping and spreading out wider, but mostly overflowed by the river, which runs in a westerly direction and rises and sinks every few alternate miles until it disappears in the bosom of the earth. At the mouth of the west opening I met Maj. José D. Sena, in command of the forces under Colonel Carson as an advance scout, to whom I reported. Next day, the 14th instant, during the temporary absence of the major, 3 Indians (2 men and 1 woman) under a flag of truce—Drapeau Blanc, Drapeau Lous, Tache—arrived and saluted me. I received them kindly, friendly, and frankly, and treated them accordingly until Major Sena arrived, to whom I turned them over with the flag. Colonel Carson arrived the same day, and my mission was ended. Prisoners captured, 19.

In conclusion, I have to observe that my thanks are due to Lieutenants Hubbell, Ortiz, and Laughlin, and the men of my command, who obeyed orders with alacrity, for the signal aid they rendered me on the trying occasion, they having all determined to perish or force their way through this strong defile, which they gallantly accomplished without loss of life or limb.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. H. PFEIFFER,
Captain, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers.

Lieut. Lawrence G. Murphy,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Navajo Expedition.

No. 4.

Reports of Capt. Asa B. Carey, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry.

Fort Canby, N. Mex., *January* 21, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders received from the colonel commanding Navajo expedition, on the 16th instant I left the west opening of Cañon de Chelle in command of Capt. A. H. Pfeiffer's company (H, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers), and detachments attached, on scouts against the Navajo Indians. I marched up the main Cañon de Chelly a distance of 4 miles, to a point where the cañon branched, the north branch running about five degrees north of east, the south branch nearly due east. As I was totally unacquainted with the country, I was undecided which of the cañons to follow, but on consulting Captain Pfeiffer I found that the north branch was his route from the east end. A knowledge of this almost unknown stronghold of the Navajoes being a valuable acquisition for future operations, I decided to travel the south branch. After marching up the cañon for 2 miles, several Indians were discovered on the north side, on the cliffs almost immediately above us, and beyond rifle-shot. I halted for the purpose of ascertaining if the side of the cañon could be ascended, but found it impossible. In the mean time the number of Indians on the rocks above us increased, and by signs and gestures indicated that they desired to come to me. I had with me a Navajo Indian, and through him I communicated to them that if they desired to come to me they could do so, when I would make known

to them the intentions of the department commander concerning them. They then told me they would come into the cañon at a point higher up. I resumed my march, and at 4 p. m. encamped in a wide bottom, each side of the cañon being about 300 yards from my camp, and the estimated height of the sides 1,000 feet. The distance marched this day I estimated at 18 miles, and over a good trail.

The Indians in the mean time had followed my line of march, and soon came into camp in large numbers, and were disposed of in such manner as to prevent injury to my command should they prove treacherous. That night I counted 150 full-grown Indians in my camp, besides many children. I informed them of the humane intentions of the department commander concerning them, and that a full and complete submission to his wishes was required, and that under no other circumstances would they be treated with, except as enemies to be fought. They then said they surrendered themselves to me, and would be governed by any directions I might give them, and would accompany me wherever I desired, but many wished to return to their homes in the mountains to collect and bring in their families. I gave all who desired to leave free permission to do so, stating to them that within ten days they must report themselves with their families at Fort Canby. They seemed well pleased, and many left stating that within the time indicated they would comply with my directions. On the morning of the 17th instant I resumed my march and marched about 2 miles in the cañon, when I commenced the ascent to gain the table-land on the south side of the cañon by the only practicable trail leading out of this branch. The trail was very difficult, and found it necessary to unpack my mules in order to enable them to go up the trail, the men carrying the loads. After leaving the east opening of the cañon, I marched in a direct line for this post over a broken country covered with pine and piñon, very little grass, and no water. Snow from 6 to 8 inches deep, making it hard marching for the men. Encamped at 4.30 p. m. in a large, open bottom ; very good grass, but no water. The distance traveled about 20 miles. On the 15th instant I resumed my march, and at 3 p. m. arrived at this post. My route the first 10 miles was through pine forest, the snow from 1 foot to 18 inches deep, and covered with a broken crust not sufficiently hard to bear up the weight of a man, which made the marching exceedingly hard. No water on the line of march until I arrived at a point known as Ewell's hay camp, about 10 miles from the post, where grass and water are abundant.

I have the honor to state that I brought into this post 105 full-grown Navajo Indian prisoners, besides some children, and since my arrival they have been coming in in parties of from 3 to 10, following up my line of march. In marching through this cañon, celebrated for its length and depth and for being an almost impregnable stronghold of the Navajoes, I made such observations as my limited time and duties would permit. The main cañon commences on the west of the Pueblo Colorado Mountains, and runs almost due east, with one short side cañon on the south and two on the north. The average width of this I estimated at about 800 yards, and no permanent water within 2½ miles of its mouth, and no land which has ever been cultivated. At the point where the main cañon branches the streams of the north and south cañons unite, and seem to be permanent. I was informed by all the Indians I questioned that the south branch

is the main cañon, and from the point where the north and south branches separate to the only practicable point of exit I estimated at 22 miles. From the point where the north and south cañons branch the average width of the south cañon was about 600 yards, though at some points it is not more than 50 yards in width, and the estimated height of the sides from 1,000 to 1,500 feet of perpendicular, and in many cases overhanging, rocks. The number of side cañons on the south are three and on the north five, which do not, as far as I could observe, extend more than about 1,000 yards on the south, but the north branches are much longer. At points in this branch of the cañon where it widens I saw signs of extensive cultivation of both wheat and corn. The water appears to be permanent, and from the signs which I observed in spring time a large amount of water must flow through this cañon. The only timber growing in this branch is cotton-wood and box-elder. This cañon is practicable for wagons to the point where the trail commences, a distance of about 22 miles from the west end. I have the honor to inclose herewith views* of the east end and west openings, and a view* at my camp, 18 miles from the west opening, executed by Sergeant Van Reen, of Company C, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers.

To the officers and men of the command are due my thanks for the manner in which they performed their duties while under my orders.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. CAREY,
Captain, Thirteenth Infantry, Commanding Scouts.

Lieut. L. G. Murphy,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Navajo Expedition.

Office Actg. Asst. Q. M. Navajo Expedition,
Fort Canby, N. Mex., January 22, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report that on the 17th instant the party at the express station at Ojo del Oso, under charge of Sergt. J. Martin Bird, Company K, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, attacked and dispersed 21 Navajo Indians, and captured 6 of the party. The 6 prisoners were turned over to Lieutenant Bishop, who passed the station shortly after the capture, to be taken to Fort Wingate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. CAREY,
Captain, Thirteenth Infantry, Actg. Asst. Quartermaster.

First Lieut. L. G. Murphy,
First Cav., New Mexico Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

JANUARY 8–9, 1864.—Bombardment of Confederate works at the mouth of Caney Bayou, Tex.

Report of Col. A. Buchel, First Texas Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division,
Camp near P. McNeil's Farm, January 10, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report that on the 8th instant, at about 11 o'clock, a Federal gun-boat commenced shelling our works at the

*Not found.

mouth of Caney, which she continued at intervals all day. At her first fire 1 man of Company E, First Texas Cavalry, was killed. In the afternoon a transport was reported to be close in shore about 6 miles below the works, and the brigade was immediately sent to within supporting distance, where they remained all night. About noon on the 9th, the transport having left early in the morning in the direction of Decrow's Point, the brigade returned to camp. The gun-boat, which lay at anchor off the works all night, commenced shelling them again on the morning of the 9th, firing during the day about 40 rounds. No casualties, except that previously mentioned, have thus far occurred. The work during the shelling has to be discontinued, but is immediately resumed whenever the gun-boat moves off, which she frequently does. About 10 a. m. on the 9th, a large transport, said to be loaded with troops, passed down in the direction of Decrow's Point about 4 p. m.; another gun-boat came to anchor near the one previously mentioned off the works, and I ordered Colonel Likens with five companies of his regiment to within supporting distance, where they remained all night. One of the gun-boats having left during the night, Colonel Likens has been ordered to return to camp with his command this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BUCHEL,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. L. G. ALDRICH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eastern Sub-division.

JANUARY 12–13, 1864.—Affair at Matamoras, Mexico.

Report of Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, commanding forces on the Rio Grande.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES ON THE RIO GRANDE,
Brownsville, Tex., January 15, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of circumstances that transpired here on the night of the 12th instant:

About 8 o'clock in the evening we were startled by rapid cannonading and musketry firing evidently going on in the streets of Matamoras, just across the Rio Grande, which continued without cessation, and spreading over the greater portion of the town until 10 o'clock. At this hour I received the following communication from Mr. L. Pierce, jr., U. S. consul at Matamoras:

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Matamoras, Mexico, January 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. J. HERRON,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Brownsville, Tex.:

GENERAL: A battle is now raging in the streets of this city between the forces of Governor Manuel Ruiz and Col. Juan N. Cortina. My person and family are in great danger, as the road between here and the ferry is said to be infested with robbers. I have also about $1,000,000 in specie and a large amount of other valuable property under my charge in the consulate, and from the well-known character of Cortina and his followers, I fear the city will be plundered. I therefore earnestly request that you will send a sufficent force to protect myself and property and to transport the money within the limits of the United States at the earliest possible moment.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. PIERCE, JR.,
U. S. Consul.

Within a very few moments the following from Governor Manuel Ruiz was handed me :

MATAMORAS, *January* 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. J. HERRON :

SIR : The forces commanded by Colonel Cortina have attacked my positions in this place. As this town is very extensive, I cannot protect all, nor guarantee the U. S. consulate and the large property of American citizens of different nations living in this town. For this reason I shall endeavor to repulse the enemy and ask you the favor to send some troops over to guard and protect the said property, which it is impossible for me to protect. I ask you, general, to take this application of mine in high consideration and to admit my profound respects.

Your obedient servant,

MANUEL RUIZ,
Governor of Tamaulipas.

I had, immediately after the firing commenced, dispatched an officer (Colonel Black, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry) to the U. S. consulate, with instructions to inform me at once of the condition of affairs, and hearing from him also that the road was infested with robbers who were taking advantage of the fighting to rob and murder, and that the family of the consul could not get away without a guard, and the legal governor, recognized by President Juarez, having informed me officially that he could not protect him, I deemed it not inconsistent with my instructions to send a small force into the city of Matamoras for the purpose of removing the family of Mr. Pierce and the specie to this side of the river. I therefore ordered Col. Henry Bertram, Twentieth Wisconsin Infantry, to send 40 men to take charge of the ferry, to put one regiment under arms, and to call at my headquarters for further orders. Upon reporting, I instructed him to take four companies of his regiment across the river and proceed to the U. S. consulate and there make proper disposition of his force to protect the U. S. consul and his property and to remove them at the earliest possible time to this side of the river, instructing him at the same time in the most positive manner not to interfere in the fight. I then replied to Governor Ruiz as follows :

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES ON THE RIO GRANDE,
Brownsville, Tex., January 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Governer MANUEL RUIZ :

SIR : Your note dated Matamoras, 10 o'clock p. m., is at hand. Mr. Pierce, the U. S. consul, wrote at 10 o'clock urging me to send a force to protect the U. S. consulate, and at his request I dispatched Colonel Bertram with a small force to the consul's house, to protect him in moving to this side of the river. My troops have positive instructions not to interfere with either persons or property, and to take no part in the fight. They will protect the consulate until safely removed.

Regretting exceedingly the troubles which surround you, and with the hope that you may soon quiet matters, I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General, Commanding.

At the same time I wrote to Mr. Pierce, informing him of the instructions given to Colonel Bertram, and requesting him to prepare for removal at once. I also sent the following notification to Governor Ruiz, sending a similar one to Colonel Cortina :

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES ON THE RIO GRANDE,
Brownsville, Tex., January 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Governor MANUEL RUIZ :

SIR : I have the honor to state that owing to a battle now raging in the streets of Matamoras between your troops and those of Colonel Cortina, and the danger existing to the person and family of Mr. Pierce, U. S. consul, I have ordered Colonel Bertram, with four companies of U. S. troops, to proceed to the house of Mr. Pierce, at

his urgent request, for the sole and only purpose of conveying them within the territory of the United States. The danger from assassins and robbers on the road between here and your city seems imperatively to demand this course, which I take reluctantly, with every assurance to you that I shall commit no hostile acts upon Mexican territory nor interfere in any manner with the fight now going on in your city. I have instructed Mr. Pierce to remove as quickly as possible, that I may withdraw the troops.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Colonel Bertram proceeded without delay to the other side of the river, marching by the shortest route to the consulate and placing his troops within the yard which is attached to the house, and such arrangements were then made as would prevent any possibility of interference by our men. At 11.30 p. m. I received the following note from Colonel Bertram:

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Matamoras, January 12, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. F. J. HERRON,
Commanding U. S. Forces:

GENERAL: I have arrived at the consul's house and assure you he was very happy to see us. I marched in by the shortest route, the firing having stopped as soon as we appeared on the street. The consul thinks Cortina has been gaining ground. I await further instructions.

Very respectfully,

H. BERTRAM,
Colonel, Commanding.

To which I replied as follows:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES ON THE RIO GRANDE,
Brownsville, Tex., January 12, 1864—12 [p.] m.

Col. H. BERTRAM:

COLONEL: Your note from the consul's is at hand. You will remain in your position, giving the consul sufficient time to remove his family and the valuables in the consulate to this side. Again let me state that you will interfere in no way with the fight, but keep your men at their post for the duty assigned them. Send a good officer with the troops at the ferry, and issue the most positive orders prohibiting straggling from the ranks or interference of any nature whatever with either persons or property. Should a stray shot come near, or even strike one of your men, that will not be considered a sufficient reason for your firing. I have notified both Ruiz and Cortina of your presence in Matamoras and the purpose. Should you see either of the persons named, state fully what your instructions are. Your mission is a delicate one. Be extremely careful.

Respectfully,

F. J. HERRON.
Major-General, Commanding.

At 12.30 o'clock I received the following from Colonel Bertram:

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,
Matamoras, January 12 [13], 1864—12.30 o'clock.

Major-General HERRON,
Commanding U. S. Forces:

GENERAL: I have received your letter. Your instructions are strictly obeyed, and I have sent the most stringent orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Laughlin not to allow anything to be done that could be construed into the violation of your orders. Commissions from both the Ruiz and Cortina parties have been here to inquire into [the] object of our coming over. I told them what my instructions were, and both parties went away satisfied. The consul says that he has about $1,000,000 in specie in his possession, and that he cannot possibly remove it or his family until morning. I have not been able to learn positively which party is gaining. Ruiz still holds the plaza, and I think will hold out until morning.

Respectfully,

H. BERTRAM.
Colonel, Commanding.

The fighting ceased for an hour after the appearance of my troops, but learning there was to be no interference both parties went at it again, taking care, however, to keep some distance from the U. S. consulate. Matters continued so until daylight, when I sent a sufficient number of wagons to remove the family of Mr. Pierce and property from the consulate. At 7 a. m. of the 13th, they were safely landed on this side and the troops withdrew. The fighting in the morning was carried on bitterly until 12 o'clock, when the Ruiz party retreated and were scattered in every direction. The casualties on both sides were about 50 killed and 100 wounded. Among the killed was Ex-Governor Alvino Lopez, a prominent Ruiz man. Governor Ruiz' forces numbered 800 men and four pieces of artillery, while Cortina's force was 600 men and six pieces of artillery. Considerable damage was done by the artillery, and the town was filled during the fight with lawless bands, plundering, &c. Colonel Cortina has already announced himself as governor of Tamaulipas, while Governor Ruiz, General Rohez, and some other prominent officers escaped and crossed to this side, and are now here refugees.

I have in this report given merely the facts in detail and will not enter into argument in justification of my course. Notified by the legal governor of the State that he could not protect the U. S. consulate, and with an appeal from the consul direct for protection for his family and property, I felt that it was unquestionably my duty to furnish a sufficient guard to remove him from the city, taking at the same time every precaution to prevent collision with either of the factions. I might here state that the English consul remained during most of the night at the U. S. consulate under our protection. I inclose as portion of the report letters* from Governor Ruiz and Colonel Cortina, the former claiming to be the governor appointed and recognized by Juarez and complaining that I do not help him, and the latter expressing his approval of the neutrality I observed.

In conclusion, I would say that Col. Henry Bertram, of the Twentieth Wisconsin Infantry, who commanded the troops that crossed over, performed the delicate mission in an admirable manner, and proved himself an officer of more than ordinary judgment. His officers and soldiers are entitled to thanks for their conduct.

I have the honor to be, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General.

General CHARLES P. STONE,
Chief of Staff, New Orleans, La.

JANUARY 13-14, 1864.—Scout from Pine Bluff to Monticello, Ark.

Report of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF PINE BLUFF,
Pine Bluff, Ark., January 14, 1864.

GENERAL: Lieutenant McCarty, with 20 men, has just come in. He went 2 miles beyond Monticello. At Monticello he destroyed

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* Not found.

2,000 bushels of corn put up for the Confederacy, and captured 1 captain and 5 men. He thinks Parsons is at Warren. The information received from the prisoners agrees with what I have formerly sent you.

* * * * * * *

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major-General STEELE.

JANUARY 15-17, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson County, Mo.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Warrensburg, Mo., January 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that Lieutenant Couch and the troops that went to his assistance have returned. Lieutenant Couch reports that he pursued the rebels until 10 o'clock at night of the 16th, and searched all day of the 17th for them. They scattered during the night of the 16th and could not be found on the 17th. It is reported by Lieutenant Couch that Blunt's band numbers about 50 men, and that it is rumored there is another band under Todd in the vicinity of Round Prairie, Jackson County, number unknown. Some of our men from Lexington, under Lieutenant Kessinger, found a camp near Pink Hill, in Jackson County, on the 15th; the campfires were burning, but the rebels could not be found. The camp discovered by Lieutenant Couch was in Jackson County, about 3 miles west of the La Fayette County line, nearly west of Chapel Hill. There are no indications of red legs on the western boundary of this sub-district as yet. There is no other news of interest.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES McFERRAN,
Colonel First Cav., Mo. State Militia, Comdg. Regiment.

General E. B. BROWN,
Commanding District of Central Missouri.

JANUARY 16-FEBRUARY 15, 1864.—Operations in Northwestern Arkansas.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Jan. 22, 1864.—Skirmishes at Clear Creek and Tomahawk.
23, 1864.—Affair at Bailey's, on Crooked Creek.
Skirmish on Rolling Prairie.
Skirmishes near Burrowsville.
Feb. 5, 1864.—Skirmish on Crooked Creek.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Colly B. Holland, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

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* See also Captain Turner's report, p. 67.

No. 3.—Capt. Charles Galloway, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 4.—Lieut. John E. Phelps, Third U. S. Cavalry, commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 5.—Capt. William C. Human, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 6.—Maj. Lyman W. Brown, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

No. 7.—Abstract from Record of Events on returns of the District of Southwest Missouri for January and February, 1864.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT SOUTHWEST MISSOURI,
Springfield, February 19, 1864.

GENERAL: Although addressing you a line on official business, I shall be permitted to express my gratification at again reporting to and conferring with the general under whom I fought my first battles, and from whom I received the first commendation for the proper conduct in the trying circumstances of hard-contested fields.

I inclose herewith the reports of Brigadier-General Holland, Fourth Militia District, and Col. J. E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry, of their operations in Northwestern Arkansas during the past few weeks. The reports of Captain Turner, Sixth Missouri State Militia, and Captain Human, Eighth Missouri State Militia, have already been forwarded, and that of Captain Galloway, of the First Arkansas, will be forwarded in a few days.

Early in January I was advised that from 1,200 to 2,000 Confederate soldiers and bushwhackers had gathered in Newton, Searcy, Izard, and Carroll Counties, Ark., and were contemplating a raid into this State, with a view of capturing our trains, &c. As soon as possible after obtaining information of this kind I ordered 200 men of the First Arkansas into Newton County, 200 of the Second Arkansas to the same locality, and 200 of the Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry to the same place, and to march so that they would arrive at Rolling Prairie about the same time. Captain Turner was at the same time ordered to Batesville with dispatches, with instructions to return by way of Sylamore Creek and intercept any parties moving south, and report to Captain Human in Searcy County. Captain Human was the first to reach the position occupied by the rebels, and at first they manifested quite a disposition to make a stand and fight, but after the three columns made a junction they made no further stand, and all the northwestern portion of Arkansas was thoroughly scouted. After the forces that first moved into this section had passed south, nearly to the southern line of Searcy County, a force of 200 or 300 rebels suddenly made their appearance near Berryville and made some demonstrations that indicated an intention on their part to move north. I immediately sent General Holland with 200 men and a section of artillery to that point. He afterward joined the other troops in the field and continued operations, as will appear from his report. The results of all the movements, from the best information I can gather, are the capturing of 70 prisoners of war, 200 Confederate soldiers and bushwhackers (many of them notoriously bad characters) killed, and at least 1,000 of the rebel soldiers, partisan rangers, and guerrillas driven across the Arkansas River.

I am now holding with troops belonging to my command posts at Berryville, Rolling Prairie, and Yellville, Ark., and design sending a force to Bennett's River, in Fulton County, very soon, if the same will be permitted, Fayetteville, Huntsville, and Bentonville being occupied by the First Arkansas Cavalry and battery, of which I to-day have relinquished command.

It is of the utmost importance to this State, especially this section of it, that that portion of Arkansas lying north of the Boston Mountains should be occupied by troops and kept clear of rebel troops and bands of guerrillas. Izard, Searcy, Newton, and Carroll Counties are, and for nearly a year have been, the great rendezvous or base of operations for all bands of guerrillas and murderers that infest this section of the State. Fulton County is also a great place of resort for them. It is therefore of the utmost importance to station troops enough in these counties to drive out all these enemies. The farmers and people in the southern tier of counties in this State would then feel safe and return and cultivate their farms, an object of the first importance. Forage is abundant, too, in these counties in Arkansas, while in the southern tier of counties of the State there is none; hence it is impossible to station or support any troops in them. It seems, therefore, to be of the first importance to this department, or to the people of Missouri, that this department should extend south to the Boston Mountains, which seems the natural line dividing the country and departments, or that there should be a perfect understanding with General Steele that this country north of Boston Mountains should be so occupied by his troops that no large bands or organizations can be found there. If this should be done, the Second Arkansas Cavalry might be transferred to the Department of Arkansas, and I could manage this district with the Missouri troops alone. The people of this State will not return to their farms in the border counties unless all the counties that I enumerated in Arkansas are occupied by our troops, or at least until a home guard force is formed and organized, which can be done speedily.

I desire to be advised whether I should withdraw all troops belonging to my command that I am now operating with temporarily in Arkansas. Many of them are enrolled militia, and Missouri State Militia troops. I can protect the people and property of the district far better while operating there than at home here, and get forage much better.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Colly B. Holland, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *February* 17, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of my operations and movements against the enemy in the southern portion District of Southwest Missouri:

In obedience to your orders I left Springfield, Mo., on the 26th ultimo, to assume command of the forces operating in Northern Ar-

kansas. Arrived at Cassville, Mo., on the 27th. Ascertaining at that point that the enemy in force were in the vicinity of Berryville, Ark., I moved forward on the morning of the 28th for that place, with one battalion of the Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, Major Murphy, and one section of First Missouri Artillery, Lieutenant Stierlin. I purposed making Berryville that night, but finding the roads in a rough and heavy condition, I was obliged to camp about midway, in the vicinity of White River. Reached Berryville on the 29th; found Captain Duff in command with a small force of the Second Arkansas Cavalry. Everything was apparently quiet in that locality, except some little excitement created by small parties of jayhawkers who infest the country bordering on the Osage and King's Rivers. At Berryville I was detained seven days on account of supplies not reaching me. The train conveying the same from Cassville having arrived at White River, was on account of high water unable to cross. The river was swollen very high by the rains that fell on the 30th and 31st. My supply train arrived on the 5th of February. Leaving at Berryville a force sufficiently strong to repel an attack of any considerable number, and deeming the place amply secure, I pushed forward on the morning of the 6th, with an additional force of 100 of the Second Arkansas, in the direction of Carrollton, Crooked Creek, and Rolling Prairie, having previously heard that some considerable demonstrations were being made in that section by Freeman, Love, and Gunning. I formed a junction with Colonel Phelps, Major [Captain] Galloway, and Captain Human on the 8th at Rolling Prairie. Here I received intelligence that Freeman and Love, with their respective commands, had marched east of Yellville, while the forces of McCullough, Nichols, and Gunning had separated in small squads and scattered in various directions. Found that Phelps, Galloway, and Human had thoroughly scouted the country on Crooked Creek, Rolling Prairie, Newton County, and as far south as Burrowsville, meeting the enemy often, routing them in every engagement, and killing 70 of their number, meeting only with a trivial loss. It is very evident neither of the rebel forces who have been operating on White River will risk an engagement with anything like an equal number. They are, however, inclined to make sudden dashes, invariably upon inferior numbers; ambushing, attacking trains, &c.

With Major [Captain] Galloway and Captain Human's commands I moved east to Yellville, where I arrived on the 9th. Discovered on the route numerous small parties of the enemy upon the prominent hills and cliffs that commanded our line of march, perfectly secure, as an attempt to dislodge them would have proved fruitless as to important results. I could have brought my artillery into requisition in many instances similar to the above, but should I have done so, my hopes of meeting the enemy in force would have been entirely frustrated. At Yellville I captured some 8 or 10 prisoners, some of them notorious characters.

At that point I remained several days, scouting the country in all directions with considerable success. Information reached me at Yellville, placing Freeman and Love, with 600 or 800 men, across White River with the design of making a raid into Missouri. With the view of ascertaining the correctness of such report, I sent Major [Captain] Galloway and command to Dubuque, on White River; also a scout of the Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, under Lieutenant Finley, to Talbot's Ferry, where it was supposed the enemy had crossed

the river. Instructions to Lieutenant [Finley] were, if finding the enemy had crossed the river at Talbot's Ferry, to destroy the boat to prevent them recrossing at that point. Agreeably to said instructions, Lieutenant Finley proceeded to Talbot's Ferry and received information there (through several sources, I believe) that Freeman and Love with a large force had crossed the river and moved east toward Salem; also of their having expressed a determination to move northward into Missouri early in the spring.

Leaving Captain Human's battalion at Yellville, I moved on the 13th to Dubuque, to co-operate with Major [Captain] Galloway's command in any demonstrations I would have deemed important to make against the enemy across the river. Upon my arrival at White River, I found the same quite shallow and easily forded at many places. I had designed moving east in pursuit of Freeman, but finding the river in such a condition as to enable him to cross and recross at his pleasure, and thus evade a battle with me, I relinquished all hope of meeting him, and concluded to abandon further operations for the present. I would suggest the propriety of establishing posts (at least temporarily) at Rolling Prairie and Yellville. Those are favorable localities, forage, meats, breadstuffs, and good water being abundant.

I was surprised to find such a thoroughly Union sentiment prevailing in Carroll, Marion, and Searcy Counties, Ark. A feeling of security, inspired by the presence of Union troops in the country, caused many to come in and acknowledge their faith in and devotion to the old flag. Hundreds of the citizens of Northern Arkansas are loyal at heart, and are only awaiting an opportunity when they can throw off the yoke of rebel tyranny to which they have so long been subjected, and assume again the rights, powers, and privileges of good loyal citizens of the United States Government. To encourage them in their desires and laudable purposes, I would respectfully recommend that troops be stationed at the points suggested until they can organize themselves into home-guard companies, arms and ammunition furnished them (both of which they are destitute of), when I think there is no doubt they will prove sufficiently vigilant and powerful to protect themselves and families from the outrages of guerrillas, outlaws, and jayhawkers.

To the officers and men of the First and Second Arkansas Cavalry, Sixth, Eighth, and Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, and Lieutenant Stierlin, First Missouri Battery [Battery L, First Missouri Artillery], I am under many obligations, and to whose endurance, bravery, and faithful execution of duty as officers and soldiers it is with pleasure I bear testimony.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

C. B. HOLLAND,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Charles Galloway, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK., *February* 21, 1864.

COLONEL: On the 10th of January I left Fayetteville, in command of 150 men of the First Arkansas Cavalry Volunteers, for the pur-

pose of scouting and foraging, proceeding in an easterly direction. On the 19th, I was re-enforced by Captain Botchfuhr, of the same regiment, with 35 men, and rations to the last of the month, and ordered to Lebanon, Searcy County, there to join a detachment of the Second Arkansas Cavalry and Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, on the 23d January. I marched by Berryville and Carrollton, joined the Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia on Marshall Prairie, in Searcy County, on Friday, 22d January, and was shortly joined by a detachment of the Second Arkansas Cavalry. The combined force was as follows: First Arkansas Cavalry, 182 men, Capt. Charles Galloway commanding; Eighth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, 150 men, Capt. W. C. Human commanding; Second Arkansas Cavalry, 195 men, Lieut. John E. Phelps, U. S. Army, commanding, and one mountain howitzer, belonging to the First Arkansas Cavalry. I was ascertained to be the ranking officer, and assumed command of the whole force, which then moved toward Burrowsville. Skirmishing soon began, and was continued for several miles. On Clear Creek I found the rebels in line, four deep, awaiting our entrance into a narrow pass. They were soon routed and driven in confusion, with the loss of several wounded. The command then proceeded on to the crossing of Tomahawk, where they were posted on a high bluff that overlooked the road where it passed down a narrow ravine. Their position could not be reached by cavalry. They attacked our advance as it entered the ravine, and commenced a heavy fire upon the column. I immediately moved the Eighth Missouri State Militia upon the opposite side of the ravine on a steep hill-side and opened fire upon the rebels, at the same time sending the First Arkansas Cavalry, dismounted, in their rear and on their right flank. After considerable firing they mounted their horses and retreated rapidly, with a loss of 3 killed and a number wounded. Our loss, 2 men slightly wounded and several horses killed. The command moved on, and shortly afterward went into camp.

The next day, 23d, moved to Burrowsville, county seat of Searcy County, skirmishing some and being fired upon from the brush. I took possession of Burrowsville without opposition.

On the 25th, Captain Human, with the Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, proceeded to Clinton, Van Buren County, killing and capturing a number of prominent rebels. On the 26th January I was joined by Company K, Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and learned that dispatches from General Sanborn, borne by 25 men of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, had been captured and 11 men killed.

On the 27th, the First Arkansas Cavalry moved to Bear Creek and scouted there until the 30th January. On the 28th, the Eighth Cavalry returned from Clinton, and shortly afterward 100 of the Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, came in from Batesville. They reported having had a fight with Col. Tom. Freeman's command, in which they were joined by a portion of the First Nebraska Infantry. Freeman was routed with a loss of 30 killed, over 50 captured, 100 stand of arms, and his train, containing supplies, his trunk, commission, and private papers.

On the 27th, six companies of the Third Arkansas Cavalry came in from Dover, and reported having found Colonel Witt with 400 men running from our command, and that he was pursued by them across the Arkansas River below Clarksville. On the 29th ultimo Captain Human, with Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, was ordered

back to Marshall Prairie ; the Third Cavalry moved back to Dover, and Captain Millsap, of Second Arkansas Cavalry, proceeded by way of Cave Creek into Newton County, Lieutenant Phelps and myself moving on to Richland, and thence across Buffalo to Marshall Prairie. I remained in that vicinity scouting the country until the 5th instant, when the command moved to Rolling Prairie. I now took a scout and went on to Crooked Creek, pursuing a force of 300 until they scattered, in the mean time killing and capturing a number. While on this scout Major Melton, of the Second Cavalry, was slightly wounded in the arm while killing a rebel captain.

On Monday, the 8th instant, I was joined by General Holland, with a force of 300 and two pieces of artillery. On the 9th instant he proceeded to Yellville, ordering the First Arkansas Cavalry and Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, on a scout round by Tomahawk. On the morning of the 10th, I was ordered to Dubuque, on White River, and remained in that vicinity scouting the country until the 14th instant, killing 10 of the rebels in various skirmishes. On the 15th, I returned to Yellville, General Holland having in the mean time returned to Springfield with his command. Captain Human was left in command of post by order of General Holland. The same day Major Fitch arrived with orders relieving me and ordering me to report to Fayetteville.

The result of the scout is over 100 killed of the rebels, with a loss on our side of 2 killed and 3 wounded.

Captain Human and the detachment of the Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, under his command deserve great credit, as also Lieutenant Phelps, U. S. Army, and the detachment of the Second Arkansas Cavalry under his command, for their soldierly conduct and bravery in the field.

CHARLES GALLOWAY,
Captain Company E, First Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. A. W. BISHOP, *Commanding at Fayetteville.*

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. John E. Phelps, Third U. S. Cavalry, commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Cassville, Mo., February 16, 1864.

GENERAL : I report that, in obedience with Special Orders, No. 13, from your headquarters, telegraphed January 15, 1864, and also your instruction of the 16th, I moved on the 17th from Cassville with Companies D and E of my regiment, and arrived at Berryville, Ark., next day, joining Companies A, B, and C. The absence of a large portion of the men there made it necessary for me to remain to the 20th, when I moved down with my force as it was toward Carrollton. I left at Berryville all convalescents, and such horses as could not stand a long march, with orders for the officers and men who had not reported yet to follow immediately on my trail as soon as they arrived, and Lieutenant Irwin to remain in command of the station. I had previously dispatched to Captain Cameron to hasten two companies to Berryville, anticipating that the enemy might attempt a movement upon the place. I halted 5 miles north of Carrollton, and was passed in the evening by Captain Galloway's command, some 180 strong. Mine was then 166. The next day (21st)

I encamped at Rolling's farm, 30 miles beyond, on the edge of Rolling Prairie. There I was joined by 34 men of Companies A and B, swelling my force to 200. Company C (Lieutenant Orr), sent as flankers, on that day had surprised at Bailey's a guerrilla chief on Crooked Creek and 3 desperadoes of his gang; 2 of these were shot dead, the third left for dead on the spot. Early the morning of the 22d, I joined Captain Human, and Captain Galloway shortly after arrived. Human's pickets had been annoyed all night by the rebels. Command being waived by Captain Human and myself, it necessarily devolved upon Captain Galloway. After consultation, it was decided that the whole force would move at once on the road to Burrowsville, the Missouri troops leading the advance. About midday a party of some 50 or 60 guerrillas was met and dispersed after a short musketry and the firing of the First Arkansas Cavalry's mountain piece. Pursuit followed over a mountainous and rugged country to a place called Tomahawk, well calculated for a stand. The road sinks precipitously from a high hill into a cavity, where a column exposes its front and flanks to any force in front, and runs between high cliffs in a pass too narrow to admit of a successful passage, and where the retreat or advance of a troop once engaged in the gap would be almost impossible against a force that meant to hold the position. A party, ascertained since to amount to some 170 men, held the position and attempted to defend it. They were compelled to yield, with a loss of 2 dead and 4 wounded. No Federals injured.

My regiment being placed in front immediately after the engagement I retained my position the next day. From all information gathered through the country it was understood that the rebels would make a desperate stand at a place on Bear Creek called Rock Fence, an obstruction of that description running across the narrow valley. Dispositions were made for any emergency. The position, however, was not defended, and the united forces passed on to Lebanon, 4 bushwhackers only showing their heads from the summit of the high cliffs and beyond the reach of our arms. From Lebanon we made Burrowsville the same day, four shots only being exchanged by the rear of the column and the bushwhackers, 23d January. At Burrowsville no reliable information could be collected, either about the number of the rebels or their whereabouts; whether they had, or were, concentrated or divided or who were their commanders. News, however, was received of an encounter between bushwhackers and a party of Federals, 25 in number, carrying dispatches to our forces, and in which this troop was badly cut up. The report proved only too true. The unfortunates belonged to the Eleventh Missouri Volunteers. Detachments were sent in all directions to scour the country. They did it for miles, and nothing was found. Captain Human, on the 25th, at dusk, moved with 150 or 160 men of his original command toward Clinton, 20 miles south-southeast. Captain Galloway and 50 men returned to Lebanon on the 26th. The same day Company K, Eighth Missouri State Militia, arrived without any serious difficulty. Information also was brought of the rebels having collected in our rear and moved upon Berryville. No enemy near us.

Witt (rebel) has crossed the river Arkansas with 300 men; so Major Van Houten, Third Arkansas Cavalry, reports. He has with him 600 men; has seen Witt across the river; has been in Clinton, and scoured the country south of the Boston Mountains. Passing through Burrowsville the Third Arkansas made Wiley's Cove, while the

First Arkansas Cavalry was making for a more westerly direction. The First Nebraska Cavalry and the Sixth Missouri in the mean time had pressed hard toward the same center. A messenger, sent by Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer to the Eighth Missouri State Militia to guide them to him, brought intelligence that Freeman, in attempting to make his way to the Arkansas, with some 400 men, had been intercepted and defeated by the Sixth Missouri and First Nebraska, his train captured and destroyed, and his force scattered and thrown across White River, leaving Love (colonel) and about 200 of those banditti in the hills. This report is confirmed by Captain Human, who had been equally fortunate in his reconnaissance, and succeeded in capturing several prisoners, among them some of the most bitter rebels in that country—officers of guerrilla bands.

Upon representations made by me to Colonel Baumer in a dispatch, the Eighth Missouri State Militia remained at Berryville, where one company of the Sixth Missouri State Militia reported on the 29th. The whole force moved immediately, the Missouri troops direct to Lebanon; the Arkansas troops, by a detour to southwest, were to form junction again with them at the same place the next day. Dividing forces again to meet at some point on Marshall or Rolling Prairies, the First and Second Arkansas moved on to Richland Creek, where Love (captain) had been the night before with 74 men; thence by Point Peter to Cave Creek, through a country excessively rasperous. Here, about the ruins of the saltpeter-works of the Southern Confederacy, I remained in camp one day. I moved then across the Judea Mountains, Big Creek, and Buffalo River, beyond Jasper, on Hudson's Fork, 6 miles, and from there to Ewing's farm, in the neighborhood of Bellefonte. The First Arkansas had passed by another road from Richland toward the point of concentration.

On the 4th of February, from my camp at Ewing's, I started with Company C, of my command, re-enforced by few men of other companies, to meet Galloway's command, or ascertain his whereabouts, and return the next day at the camp of my command on Crooked Creek, where I had ordered it. I returned only on the 7th. In the mean time we had engagements on the prairie (Rolling) with the guerrillas. They are generally from this State and fight desperately. At various places my command alone killed 15 or 20 and wounded several more. In one of those engagements James A. Melton, who accompanied me, was slightly wounded in the left arm.

On my return, hearing of General Holland being encamped a few miles below, I repaired to his headquarters. My regiment was divided. Upon my representations, General Holland ordered it to unite at Barber's, north of Rolling Prairie, and protect the emigrants' train against all attempts of guerrillas and escort it through to Missouri. This has been done. The train (upward of 100 wagons), fired upon on Osage Creek, arrived safe at Berryville on the 13th instant, and from there was properly escorted to Galena by a company of my regiment. Serviceable property captured by my regiment in this expedition has all been branded, and memorandum taken of it. To facilitate accounts other property will be turned over or accounted for at Springfield.

The importance of the expedition cannot as yet be well defined; the results alone will show it. There is but little doubt that with all the forces enumerated in my report, had time been given to the enemy to concentrate, they would have been ready for any roving

expedition on our lines of communication, east or west, and I am inclined to believe upon this State. Our forces were thrown forward at the right moment, and the plans of the enemy foiled.

I am, very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. PHELPS,
Lieut., 3d U. S. Cav., Rectg., Comdg. 2d Arkansas Cav.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 5.

Report of Capt. William C. Human, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST BATT., EIGHTH MO. STATE MILITIA,
Yellville, Ark., February 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report: In obedience to your orders I marched from Ozark, Mo., on the 18th of January, with all the available men of the First Battalion, Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. I marched 20 miles to Swan Creek and camped. On the 19th, marched 10 miles south of White River. On the 20th, marched to Baker's Prairie. On the 21st, marched through Baker's and Hussa Prairies to Marshall Prairie. Had several skirmishes; killed 4 and wounded 2 bushwhackers. The pickets were firing during the night. Marched on the 22d up Clear Creek; found about 180 rebels. I formed two of my companies and drove the rebels across the mountains to the south side, where they secreted themselves behind the brush and rock until the column came down through the ravine. They poured a heavy fire from the top of the mountain down on the main column. I managed to throw skirmishers on the opposite mountain, and drove them in every direction; killed 4 and wounded 2. Here I lost 2 horses wounded and left; also 2 men were very slightly scratched. Camped in the bottom near the mountain. Marched on the 23d to Lebanon; fed, and marched on to Burrowsville. We were fired on from the tops of several hills, but no damage was done. After having rested for two days, I learned that there was a force in Clinton. I started about dark, marched 30 miles, and arrived at Clinton at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 27th, but there was no force in that country. Moved to Red River, up Red River to Denton, and back to Burrowsville. On the 31st, marched to Bear Creek, scouted the country; scattered the rebels into small squads. I then moved to Ring's Mills, near Marshall Prairie; scouted the country for several days; killed 21 bushwhackers. Here I lost 1 man and 1 scout killed in a skirmish with a lot of bushwhackers. I then moved to Rolling Prairie; scouted the country; killed 2 bushwhackers. I was then ordered by General Holland to this place. I have captured 32 head of horses. I find plenty of forage, bacon, wheat, and corn meal. The horses are barefooted, and some of the men need clothing very much.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. C. HUMAN,
Capt., Comdg. First Batt., Eighth Cav., Mo. State Militia.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 6.

Report of Maj. Lyman W. Brown, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT ELEVENTH CAV., MISSOURI VOLS.,
Springfield, Mo., January 30, 1864.

GENERAL: The major commanding detachment Eleventh Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers, has the honor to report that, in obedience of orders issued by the general commanding District Southwest Missouri, bearing date 21st of January, 1864, Orderly Sergt. Isaac T. Jones, Company B, and 24 men of the Eleventh Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers, were detailed and ordered without delay to carry dispatches to W. C. Human, captain commanding First Battalion, Eighth Missouri State Militia, in the field in North Arkansas, with directions to proceed by Ozark, Mo.; then procure a guide, and proceed in a southeasterly direction to the command of Captain Human. The detachment on the 23d day of January, 1864, about 12 m., while marching on the route on Rolling Prairie, in Marion County, Ark., was suddenly attacked and charged upon by about 60 rebels or bushwhackers, when a fight ensued, which resulted in the defeat of Sergeant Jones and his command. At the time of the fight several detachments of rebels or bushwhackers, under the command of Captains Green, Holt, and Patten, were in the immediate vicinity, numbering about 300 men. Seven men, including Sergeant Jones, were killed on the ground, and 5 others were taken prisoners, who, it is supposed, were afterward shot in cold blood. The balance of the detachment escaped, and have safely arrived in camp.*

The major commanding begs leave to say that Sergeant Jones was a brave officer, and that from reliable information the whole of said detachment was engaged, and did their duty faithfully and nobly and fought bravely. Several of the rebels were killed in the charge. Owing to the overwhelming numbers of the enemy the sergeant and his command tried to escape and avoid a conflict, but were unable to do so. The dispatches fell into the hands of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. W. BROWN,
Major, Comdg. Detachment Eleventh Cavalry, Mo. Vols.

Brigadier-General SANBORN.

No. 7.

Abstract from Record of Events on returns of the District of Southwest Missouri, for January and February, 1864.

January 16.—Capt. Samuel E. Turner and 92 men, Sixth Cavalry Missouri State Militia, left Springfield with dispatches for the commanding officer at Batesville, Ark., and on return was joined by a detachment of the First Nebraska Cavalry. Came in contact with the enemy in Izard County, Ark.; routed him completely, killing 22, capturing 57 prisoners, about 100 horses, 3 wagons, 100 stand of arms, &c. Report since forwarded to department headquarters, Capt. W. C. Human, in command of First Battalion, Eighth Cavalry,

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 12 killed and 2 wounded.

Missouri State Militia, in the field in Northern Arkansas the greater portion of month, yet in the field operating against the enemy, having frequent skirmishes.

Capt. G. W. Murphy, with detachments Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and Battery L, First Missouri Light Artillery, with two pieces of artillery, 200 men in all, marched from Springfield to Cassville, Mo., on December 30, ultimo; ordered from thence to Berryville, Ark., to operate against the enemy then in that section yet in the field. Companies G and H, Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, changed station from Carthage, Mo., to Springfield since last return. The district has been very quiet during the month, especially that portion in Missouri. Northern Arkansas has been disturbed by commands under Colonels Love, Freeman, and Hughes, crossing White River at points remote from posts occupied by Federal troops. A force of over 1,000 has made its way as far north as Searcy County, Ark., but has been routed and broken up, then falling back in small squads. Many have been killed and numbers deserting, coming within our lines and giving themselves up, declaring themselves heartily tired of the rebellion.

February 12.—Maj. L. W. Brown, commanding battalion Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, marched from Springfield for Salem, Ark., via Rolla, Mo.

February 14.—Lieut. Col. John E. Phelps, commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry, returned to Cassville, Mo., from Northern Arkansas. Mounted force of the Second Arkansas Cavalry in the field in Northern Arkansas.

February 16.—Brig. Gen. C. B. Holland, Enrolled Missouri Militia, returned to Springfield from Northern Arkansas with detachments of the Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and Battery L, First Missouri Light Artillery. Capt. W. C. Human, commanding First Battalion, Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, in the field in Northern Arkansas since last return; seven companies of the Sixth and Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia in Northern Arkansas. Detachment of Battery L, First Missouri Light Artillery, ordered to Rolla, Mo., from department headquarters.

JANUARY 17–19, 1864.—Scouts from Brownsville, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Harrison A. Gleim, Second Missouri Light Artillery, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Cavalry Division,
Brownsville, Ark., January 19, 1864.

Sir: The party sent to Searcy has just returned. Colonel Black, with his command, will leave for Little Rock this morning. An expedition of the Third Missouri Cavalry, under Lieutenant Hyatt, mortally wounded and captured the guerrilla Capt. Jim Poe and killed his lieutenant, named Garrison; scattered the band of 18 men. McRae is still in that region, but goes about alone. Witt is west of Searcy, and is said to have 200 or 300 men, partly armed.

HARRISON A. GLEIM,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Lieut. A. S. Montgomery,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Cavalry Division.

JANUARY 19, 1864.—Skirmish at Branchville, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. Benjamin T. Humphrey, Seventh Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF PINE BLUFF,
Pine Bluff, Ark., January 24, 1864.

GENERAL: I took the cavalry at this post—the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, the First Indiana Cavalry, the Seventh Missouri Cavalry, numbering in all about 600 men and four pieces of light artillery—and started at midnight, January 18, in the direction of Monticello; moved down to Bayou Bartholomew, 12 miles from here, and drove away the enemy's pickets; then stopped and fed. About daylight I moved forward, finding every few miles camp-fires, where small parties of the enemy had camped the night before. About 5 miles from the bayou the advance commenced skirmishing with the enemy's pickets, and some 3 miles farther on I found the enemy in line of battle in thick timber, with their center resting on the road. I deployed the First Indiana and the Fifth Kansas Cavalry on the right and left of the road, and kept the artillery in the road, and formed the Seventh Missouri Cavalry in rear of the others as a reserve. I fought at this place about one-half an hour, and drove the enemy from his position and pursued him 7 miles, all of which distance he contested very tenaciously. The enemy fell back all of the way in line of battle, and I followed him in a similar manner. The firing for the whole 7 miles was incessant; but as it was timbered country all of the way, and both sides took advantage of the timber, there was, for the amount of firing, comparatively little damage done to either side. My loss was 2 killed and a number slightly wounded. The different regiments report that they saw of the enemy 16 killed and 9 dangerously wounded. I do not know that this report is correct; but the ground fought over was so extensive that I had no other way of ascertaining.

The enemy's main camp was at Branchville, from which I completely routed him and drove him about 2 miles beyond, at which place he withdrew and ceased firing. My command was now nearly out of ammunition, having already fired over 40 rounds, and knowing that the enemy could with little difficulty cross from the Saline to the rear of me, I therefore concluded that I would not continue the pursuit farther, but return. I fed, then moved back to Bayou Bartholomew and camped for a short time; but knowing that there was a force on the Saline I thought it was not best to leave so small a garrison at the post very long, so I marched to Pine Bluff that night, arriving there about midnight. Mr. Duces, a Union man whom the rebels had prisoner at the time of the engagement, reports that we killed Colonel Lawther. The citizens from that vicinity report the same also.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Major-General STEELE.]

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Benjamin T. Humphrey, Seventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. SEVENTH CAVALRY, MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Pine Bluff, Ark., January 20, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with instructions from the colonel commanding, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Seventh Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers, in the engagement of January 19, 1864:

At the opening of the engagement the regiment was deployed to the right and left of the road and held in reserve in support of the artillery, in which position it remained for some two hours, the entire line moving forward. The regiment was then ordered to the front, dismounted, to relieve the skirmishers of the First Indiana and Fifth Kansas Cavalry Regiments. The regiment moved forward at double-quick, repulsing the enemy wherever found. Our loss in action: Private William Munks, Company B, killed; Private Henry Helwig, Company H, slightly wounded. One horse killed. From the reports of the officers of my command, there were 5 of the enemy killed, and from the signs of blood on the ground where the engagement occurred the number of wounded must have been large. We captured from the enemy 1 mule and 1 musket.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. T. HUMPHREY,
Capt., Seventh Cav., Missouri Vols., Comdg. Regiment.

Lieut. M. W. BENJAMIN,
Post Adjutant, Pine Bluff, Ark.

JANUARY 21-25, 1864.—Reconnaissance on Matagorda Peninsula, Tex.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. forces in Texas.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Thomas E. G. Ransom, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army, commanding U. S. forces in Texas.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Matagorda Peninsula, January 28, 1864.

SIR: The reconnaissance made by my order, under direction of Brigadier-General Ransom, who marched from here on the 21st instant, was entirely successful. He returned three days ago without loss or accident, except the sad death of Capt. Charles R. March and the wounding of Private Heald, of the Thirteenth Maine, both by an accidental shot fired by one of the sailors from a gun-boat. The enemy were closely reconnoitered at Caney Creek, 60 miles from here, and discovered in some force; his pickets were driven in, and

although none were captured, they were compelled to abandon their horses and hide in some swamps, and their horses were captured. General Ransom saw 3,000 cavalry, 1,000 infantry, and some artillery draw up in the open ground just outside the works, preparing to repel his expected attack. One deserter came in from there night before last and reports 30,000 men up there. This is, of course, false.

Three deserters came into our lines at Indianola last night, having left Matagorda the night before. They report ten regiments and two batteries of field pieces at Caney, and Magruder's main force just behind the San Bernard, just in rear of the force at Caney. They report the steam-boats Carr, Cora, Lucy Gwin, and Lizzie Lake, and the schooners Annie Dale and George Buckhart, as above the surf in Matagorda Bay, and that the surf is impassable, the channel having been filled up. The two first-named steamers are cotton-clads, the other two ply with stores and supplies between Caney and Matagorda. The two schooners are armed, one with a 12-pounder, the other with a 6-pounder. The armament of the Carr has lately been changed, and she now has a 30-pounder Parrott, taken from the gun-boat Westfield.

Our reconnaissance up the peninsula was considered so threatening that this was taken from her and mounted in one of the works at Caney, together with another of the same kind, but it has since been returned to her. The Cora has a 24-pounder howitzer. Oh, for some cavalry! If I only had even two good regiments of cavalry, I could do good service. Believe me, chances are being thrown away, which are seriously to be regretted. Do send me cavalry, as much as you can, but if no more can be had, send me two good regiments, and I can use them profitably; well, gloriously. I hope I shall know soon what regiments, if any, are to be withdrawn from here. I dare not stir now, under the information of your last letter. Don't postpone sending my engineer officer and ordnance officer, also the quarmaster.

With much respect,

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General.

Lieut. Col. W. B. SCATES,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Thirteenth Army Corps.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas E. G. Ransom, U. S. Army, commanding expedition.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Decrow's Point, Tex., January 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to the orders of the general commanding, I marched at noon on the 21st instant, to make a reconnaissance up Matagorda Peninsula, my command consisting of the First Brigade, Col. W. J. Landram commanding; one gun of White's battery, and 40 men of Foust's and White's batteries as mounted infantry, Lieutenant Throop commanding. On the night of the 21st instant, encamped at Harklin's place, having marched 14 miles; marched 25 miles on the 22d, and on going into camp sent forward mounted men

to communicate with Lieutenant-Colonel Hesseltine, Thirteenth Maine Infantry, who, with his regiment and boat howitzer from the U. S. steamer Sciota, had landed at noon on the peninsula, about 45 miles from Decrow's Point. The entire command continued the march on the 23d. Met rebel pickets at Idlebach's place, 10 miles from Camp No. 2. Pushed forward rapidly, leaving the transportation at Idlebach's under guard. Arrived at Hill's and Forrester's places and found more rebel pickets. Captured 3 horses, the riders escaping on the bay. I halted the infantry and sent forward the mounted men, in charge of Captain Dana, who went up beyond the head of the peninsula without meeting any opposition. Finding that I could gain no more information by land without attacking the rebel works on the Caney River, I went on board the steamer Sciota, and moved up the coast close in shore, and from the masthead of the ship I obtained a fine view of the enemy's position and strength. His works are not formidable and seem to consist of two or three detached field-works, the one on the coast being the most extensive. They are situated about 4 miles from and front toward the head of the peninsula. The ground in front is a level plain, and excepting a strip three-fourths of a mile wide on the coast is reported marshy. No guns mounted on the works. The rebel troops were plainly distinguished in the opening bordering on the Caney River, and appeared to be in line preparing for an attack. I estimated the cavalry in sight at 3,000 and infantry at 1,000, and saw one piece of field artillery. Discovering a body of rebel cavalry moving down toward our forces, I immediately returned to my command, and having accomplished the object of the reconnaissance, I withdrew to Idlebach's place and encamped for the night. On the following day the command moved back to Duffey's place, 26 miles, and on the 24th, returned to this post, marching 27 miles.

The settlers on the peninsula are generally at home and seem well disposed toward Federal troops. They are poor and scantily supplied with subsistence. Most of the stock that was formerly so abundant on the island has been driven off by rebel troops. We experienced difficulty in procuring water, and for 15 miles, between Freeman's and Idlebach's place, there is no habitation and no water to be had by digging.

I regret to be obliged to report the death of Capt. Charles R. March, of the Thirteenth Maine Infantry, who died on the 23d instant of a wound in the head, received from a shot fired by a sailor of the steamer Sciota, who had landed with Colonel Hesseltine's regiment to get a beef. Private Samuel Heald, Company C, of the Thirteenth Maine Infantry, was wounded in the neck by the same shot. Captain March was buried at Forrester's place, 7 miles from the head of the peninsula. The conduct of the troops was good. Lieut. George Throop, of Mercantile Battery, and the officers and men under his command, and Captain Dana, of the staff of the general commanding, deserve and receive my thanks for the efficient manner in which they discharged the arduous duties assigned them.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. E. G. RANSOM,
Brigadier-General Volunteers.

Capt. Hugh G. Brown,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., U. S. Forces, Texas.

JANUARY 21–25, 1864.—Scout from Waldron to Baker's Springs, Ark., and skirmish.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of the Frontier (Col. William R. Judson, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, commanding) for month of January.

January 21.—Capt. E. A. Barker, with 100 men Second Kansas Cavalry and 40 men Sixth Kansas Cavalry, left Waldron, Ark.; marched toward Baker's Springs, Ark., where he surprised Captain Williamson's band of guerrillas, killing Williamson and 5 of his men, wounding 2, and taking 2 lieutenants and 25 men prisoners. On his return captured 1 lieutenant and 1 private. Distance traveled, 172 miles. Prisoners taken, 3 lieutenants and 26 men. Federal loss, 1 enlisted man killed and 1 wounded. Lieut. C. J. Williams, Second Kansas Cavalry, also wounded.

JANUARY 23, 1864.—Affair at Cowskin Bottom, Newton County, Mo.

Report of Capt. Milton Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEOSHO, MO., *February* 1, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to inform you of a scout I made in the Seneca Nation on the 23d of January. I learned by one of my scouts that there was a squad of rebels in the Seneca Nation, and on the 22d of January I started with 30 men of my command and marched 18 miles through the woods to avoid the rebels getting any information of my approach; halted until 2 a. m., 23d; then moved to where I supposed I would find the enemy, and about an hour after sunrise I came upon 10 of them at a house. I had 6 men in the advance, which I had charge of. I made a charge on them, killing 2 of them and wounding several; the balance dispersed in the thick brush in Cowskin Bottom. One of the men we killed was a deserter from the Sixth Kansas Regiment, and was a lieutenant in Stand Watie's command. The other man was also one of Stand Watie's men, a half-breed. The deserter's name was Harden Talifaro.

I think there are some 50 bushwhackers in the Seneca Nation, or in that vicinity. They do not stay all together, but are in small bands. I am going to make another scout in the nation before long, but I cannot take many men with me, for it would not be safe to do so. I am confident I can whip 50 of them with 25 of my men. It is a great place for guerrillas to hide in the Cowskin Bottom.

Since my command has been reduced to one company I will have to be on the alert. I will have scouts out all the time southwest, which will enable me to learn of any approach of the enemy in force. In relation to forage, we are getting full rations of corn and about one-third rations of hay. I think I can obtain forage enough to subsist my company until we can work on the grass. I wish you to call the attention of the commanding general to the large number of citizens that are absent from the border counties, and from what I can learn would come back if they had any encouragement to come. It would be a great advantage to the State for the loyal families to come back and repair their farms and raise all the grain they can.

There are some fifty families of Newton and Jasper Counties who are now in Kansas, near Fort Scott, who would come back if the commanding general would give them some encouragement to come back to their homes.

I am, with much respect, your most obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,
Capt., Comdg. Detach. Eighth Cavalry, Mo. State Militia.

Lieut. W. D. HUBBARD,
Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. Southwest Mo.

JANUARY 23–27, 1864.—Scout from Patterson, Mo., to Cherokee Bay, Ark.

Report of Capt. William T. Leeper, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PATTERSON, *January* 27, 1864.

SIR: Captain Johns has returned all safe. He has marched near 300 miles; been all over the Cherokee Bay. The captain and the swamp scouts found no force only Reves and 20 men. He killed 4 of Reves' men, and chased Reves for miles, and run him into the river. Captain Johns learned that a fight had taken place at Batesville, rebels commanded by Colonel Shaver, and that they were badly whipped and Colonel Shaver was killed, and that Jacksonport was evacuated by our forces, and that General McRae had taken possession of it. This was a bold dash for 24 men.

W. T. LEEPER,
Commanding Post.

Colonel WOODSON,
Commanding Post at Pilot Knob, Mo.

JANUARY 26, 1864.—Affair in the San Andres Mountains, N. Mex.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Department of New Mexico for January, 1864.

January 26.—Lieut. Thomas A. Young, Fifth California Volunteer Infantry, with a detachment of 12 men, left Fort Craig, N. Mex., in pursuit of a party of Indians who had run off some stock belonging to the post. He overtook the Indians in the San Andres Mountains, and was attacked by them during the night. In the morning the lieutenant was compelled to retreat, owing to the great number of Indians against him. The following is the result of the scout: Four men of the command wounded; Indian loss, 7 killed and several wounded.

JANUARY 30–FEBRUARY 3, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to near Searcy Landing, Ark.

Report of Capt. Albert B. Kauffman, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

BATESVILLE, ARK., *February* 5, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with instructions from headquarters District of Northeastern Arkansas, I left Batesville with a detachment of

Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, 75 men, at 11 p. m., January 30. Crossing White River at this point, I took the Jacksonport road to McGuire's place; thence south along Dupartee Creek to Grand Glaize, arriving at the Glaize about sundown the 31st. I remained at the Glaize about two hours, until Captain Castle arrived with a detachment of the Eleventh Missouri and Third Arkansas, under Captain Dunscomb, who had left Batesville at the same time I did, but marched by the way of Jacksonport. Captain Castle on his way down captured 2 prisoners, one a river pilot, whom he brought with him. Taking command of both detachments, I at once marched for the point indicated in your instructions, on Glaize Creek, the supposed camp of McRae, with the intention of attacking his camp at daybreak, but owing to the swollen condition of the streams and the difficulties encountered in crossing the Dupartee, I did not reach his supposed camp until 8 a. m., February 1. I found his camp broken up, and learned he had left some two days previous, marching in the direction of Denmark. His camp did not indicate more than 30 or 40 men, and were said to be Little's company. As Captain Dunscomb, with detachment of Third Arkansas, was to proceed to Little Rock, I detailed Captain Castle, with detachment of Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, to proceed with him as far as Searcy Landing. With my detachment I moved up to Denmark, where I bivouacked for the night. The next morning I moved west to the Little Rock road, where I learned that a detachment had passed during the night from Batesville. Taking their trail, I moved down the Rock road to within 5 miles of Searcy Landing, where I met the detachment under Captain Castle returning. From him I learned that the troops that preceded me were of the First Nebraska and had joined Captain Dunscomb, Third Arkansas, and were sufficient to go through.

When about to return with my command I was informed by a citizen, who had returned from up the road in the direction I had come, that within a mile he saw several men mounted pass off the road. I at once directed Captain Castle to move with a portion of his command, making a detour to the left; with the other portion of his command to make a corresponding movement to the right, while with my own detachment I would move slowly up the road. It was not long before Captain Castle, in the timber to the left, came upon 5 of these men, whom he immediately pursued, following them some 3 miles, killing 1 and capturing 2 others. The rest made their escape, their horses being too fresh for our jaded animals. These men belonged to Little's company, the same who had been encamped on Glaize Creek. Being satisfied that there is no considerable number of rebels within a reasonable distance this side of Red River, I determined to return at once to Batesville.

I moved with my detachment that evening by the Rock road back to Denmark. Captain Castle moved with his detachment around to the right in the direction of Glaize Creek, and arrived at Denmark about the same time with my own. I remained with the command in Denmark until the following morning (the 3d), and then marched directly to Batesville, where I arrived at about 6 p. m. of that day.

I am sorry to say that one man of Company L, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, deserted at Dupartee bridge, taking with him his horse and arms; while another of the same company lost his horse and arms by letting him stray off. Two horses were abandoned on the road from exhaustion and were not able to be brought back. One lieutenant of Little's company and 11 prisoners were captured, and

several horses, which were turned over by Captain Castle to the provost-marshal. The lieutenant and 2 of the prisoners were captured by Captain Dunscomb, Third Arkansas. Inclosed is a map of the route traveled by my command. Casualties, none.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. KAUFFMAN,
Captain, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers.

Captain FILLEBROWN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Northeastern Arkansas.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DETACHMENT ELEVENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY,
Batesville, February 6, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the colonel commanding, with the accompanying map.* The commanding officer of the Eleventh takes this opportunity to call the attention of the colonel commanding to the admirable conduct of Captains Kauffman and Castle and the officers and men under their command during the march.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. STEPHENS,
Lieut. Col. Eleventh Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers.

FEBRUARY 1–3, 1864.—Expedition from Madisonville to Franklinton, La., and vicinity.

Report of Brig. Gen. Cuvier Grover, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Madisonville, La., February 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report as follows: I sent out a cavalry scout of 120 men, under Captain Grinder, Third Maryland Cavalry, on the 1st instant, with instructions to go as far as Franklinton, La., and to capture, if possible, any small party which they might find there, and return by a more westerly route, and scout through the country between the Tchefuncta and the Tangipahoa Rivers, for the purpose of picking up any small parties of the enemy which were supposed to be gathering and driving off cattle from that neighborhood, and also for the purpose of picking up cattle and other animals for our own use. The above-mentioned scouts crossed the Tchefuncta River at Pend Mills, on the bridge which is not yet destroyed, and struck the Franklinton road about 10 miles from the mills. The reconnaissance reached Franklinton about 4 p. m., but found the planking of the bridge taken up for some distance, the people having information of the advance about one-half hour before the arrival. Captain Grinder, however, repaired the bridge sufficiently to cross, and occupied the town for about an hour. He learned that there had been a small party of cavalry and 5 officers there; also that the county court was in session upon his approach to the town, and that the information which was received at Franklinton, just previous to the arrival of Captain Grinder, alone prevented the capture of the party and the judges of the court. Before dark Captain Grinder withdrew from the town, and camped about 2 miles this side of the Bogue Chitto.

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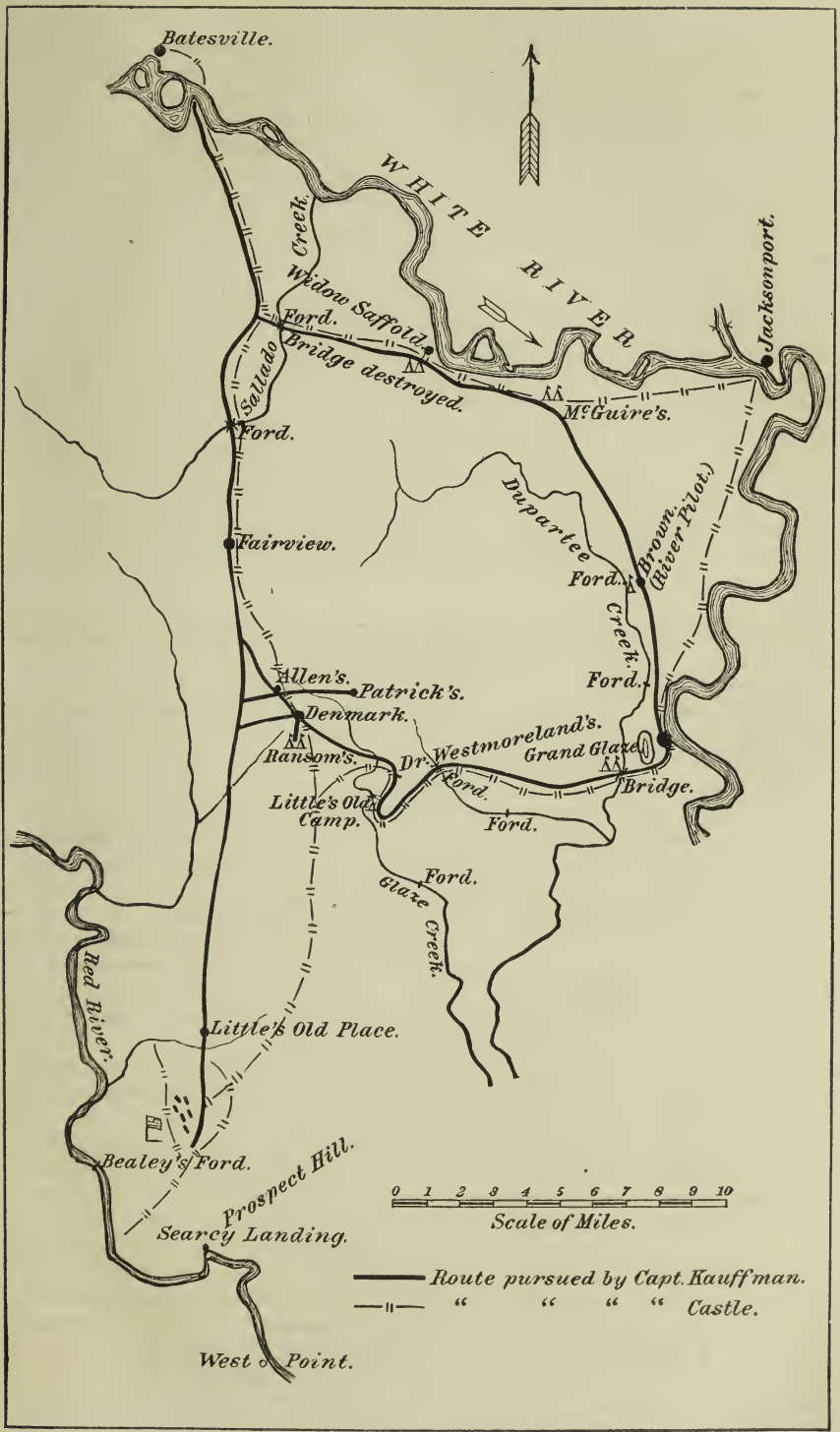
*See p. 105.


Batesville.
WHITE RIVER
Jacksonport.
Creek.
Widow Saffold.
Ford.
Bridge destroyed.
Sallado
McGuire's.
Ford.
Dupartee
Brown. (River Pilot.)
Fairview.
Ford.
Creek.
Ford.
Allen's.
Patrick's.
Denmark.
Ransom's.
Dr. Westmoreland's.
Grand Glaze
Ford.
Bridge.
Little's Old Camp.
Ford.
Ford.
Glaze Creek.
Red River.
Little's Old Place.
Bealey's Ford.
Prospect Hill.
Searcy Landing.
West Point.
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Scale of Miles.
Route pursued by Capt. Kauffman.
" " " " Castle.

The next day Captain Grinder's command moved to the place of Colonel Edwards, which is wrongly laid down on the map on the east side of the Tchefuncta, it being in fact on the west side. Nothing of any consequence occurred during the day, but some few cattle were picked up and driven along. Here Captain Grinder was joined by 100 men under Captain Bery, of the same regiment, who was sent out on the morning of the 2d to strike over on the Tangipahoa, and follow it up, to watch the crossings as high up as Lanier's place to prevent the escape of any party who might be driven in front of Captain Grinder's party. Captain Bery discovered a party of mounted men about 6 miles from here early in the morning, and caused them to be pursued until they abandoned their horses and took into the swamps, where further pursuit was useless. This party then followed up the east side of the Tangipahoa to Lanier's place, where they discovered 15 more of the enemy belonging to Captain Baddeau's company and pursued them into the river. Two of the horses were captured and 5 were shot as they were trying to swim the river. It is not known that any of the enemy were wounded. In the course of the day Lieutenant Moore, Third Maryland Cavalry, with a small party, captured Captain Addison, of the Sixteenth Louisiana Volunteers, who was formerly a conscript officer, but, as his papers show, more lately on recruiting service. This officer was captured at the house of Mr. Kincaid, about 8 miles southeast from Hennen's.

On the 3d, both scouts returned without being able to find any other parties of the enemy, and without further adventure. Captain Grinder's scout brought in as follows: Eight horses, 8 mules, 3 yoke oxen, 9 shotguns, and 1,000 rounds of buck cartridges, 130 cattle, and 76 sheep. Captain Bery's party brought in 7 horses, 4 mules, and 26 cattle. The cattle and sheep are very poor, hardly worth driving, and the most of them were turned outside of the lines as useless. They are, nevertheless, the best the country affords.

There is no enemy within our reach except small roving parties. The nearest camps I can hear definitely of are at Brandon, Miss., near Greensburg, La., and at Whitestown, Miss.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. GROVER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Maj. JOHN LEVERING,]
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Defenses of New Orleans, La.

FEBRUARY 1-24, 1864.—Operations in the Indian Territory.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. William A. Phillips, Third Indian Home Guard, commanding Indian Brigade.

No. 2.—Itinerary of the Indian Brigade.

No. 3.—Maj. Moses B. C. Wright, Second Indian Home Guard.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. William A. Phillips, Third Indian Home Guard, commanding Indian Brigade.

LITTLE RIVERTOWN, NEAR OLD FORT ARBUCKLE,
Creek Nation, February 16, 1864.

SIR: After heavy marching, day and night, I have reached this point, 105 miles from Fort Gibson, at which point my infantry and

wagons under Colonel Wattles had reached night before last. With the force I took farthest south (450 mounted men and 1 howitzer) I could, of course, not fight the enemy after they had concentrated. They declined sending any parties to fight me, evidently designing to fight me on Red River in force, which was, of course, out of the question. I regret the non-arrival of the force promised me from Fort Smith, as I could have then been justified in attempting to drive them into Texas before they could complete their organization. I have, however, fully accomplished all the specific instructions of General McNeil with my present force.

I sent a force up the Canadian to the Seminole country to sweep north to the Arkansas, crossing and marching to Gibson on the north side; Major Foreman with another up Little River to pursue the same course. I shall send another up North Fork and return with my baggage and forage train direct to Gibson. I am getting out an ox train from the country with wagons to haul to Gibson what corn there is that my command do not use. I hope to be able to get oxen enough to make a commissary train for my command as soon as grass grows.

We have left behind us copies of the President's proclamation in the Indian languages. I learned that General Maxey was present with the Choctaw legislature ten days ago, and urged them to remain at home and raise crops. There were delegations present from the Choctaw Nation, Creek (rebel portion), Cherokee (rebel portion), Chickasaw, &c. The Choctaws urged a separate confederacy, as the rebel Confederacy was unable to protect them. The rebel Creeks were preparing to fly into the Wichita Mountains. General Maxey has got De Morse's Twenty-ninth Texas Cavalry, Martin's Fifth Texas Partisan Rangers, Bass' Twentieth Cavalry, Scanland's and Gillett's battalions cavalry, besides two full batteries of 6 and 12 pounder brass and three howitzers. The two batteries have just been received and include two rifled guns. He has of Indian troops, Colonel Watie, First and Second Cherokee; what is left of the Second Creek Regiment (which amounts to little). There are two Choctaw regiments, if they do not slough off at this time, which is probable, and Colonel Jumper's regiment, which consisted of the Chickasaw and Seminole battalions, but was broken to pieces in the late battle. In addition to this, General Maxey is conscripting every man on Red River. As an offset, I am happy to be able to say that all the Canadian Valley and its tributaries are clear of rebels. I shall sweep out the upper Seminole country as I return. I shall leave no subsistence for a rebel army, or forage, so that all its supplies must come from Red River in any movement toward the Arkansas, the stretch being 180 miles. The rebel Indians are entirely disheartened and discouraged. General Maxey urged that they remain to raise a crop, promising to place his force between the Canadian and Fort Gibson, and that they should be protected. His utter failure to do so will throw a damper on the efforts he has made to reorganize.

It has rained a great deal in the past two days. I expect the many streams in this country to be filled soon, and, of course, shall recross them to my base before the rise. General Maxey has either to content himself with defending Northern Texas, in which case he will lose his Indian, allies, or recover the prestige which he has lost by our recent successes in an attack on us on the Arkansas

River, which he must do under great difficulties, and which I should much prefer that he would undertake at this season of the year, under all circumstances.

While I could not accomplish all I would have done had I been supported by Colonel Moonlight's command, and able to enter Northern Texas, still the result, in view of the condition and temper of the rebel Indians, is, I think, highly satisfactory, and will materially reduce their power to plant a force of these rebel Indians on the Arkansas River the coming spring.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major-General CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE FRONTIER,
Fort Smith, February 22, 1864.

GENERAL: Colonel Phillips, commanding Indian Brigade, reports to me from Middle Boggy, Choctaw Nation, on the 14th instant, as follows:

I have the honor to report a sharp engagement yesterday, in which the enemy were completely routed, with the loss of 47 killed; their wounded not known. The attack was made by my advance under Major Willetts, Fourteenth Kansas. The rebel force was Seminoles, Choctaws, and Texans.

Colonel Phillips' command belongs to Fort Gibson.

JNO. M. THAYER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major-General STEELE,
Commanding Department of Arkansas.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., ARMY OF THE FRONTIER,
Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, February 24, 1864.

SIR: I have arrived from the south with my main command and a refugee ox train. I do not hesitate to say that the expedition has been more eminently successful than any ever undertaken in the Indian country. So far as the rebel Creek, Seminole, and Chickasaw Nations are concerned the war is over. They have been destroyed or driven from their country. Those who are not seeking peace are fleeing to Mexico, and the Choctaw Nation is in council. The severity of the blow has stricken terror to the enemy. My command reached a point near Red River Valley, 165 miles south-southwest of this place. We marched about 400 miles; killed, as nearly as I can get information, in the different fights and skirmishes, 250 men, and have only 4 wounded, all of whom will recover. Three are missing, but may turn up. Among the rebel loss there are 2 majors killed (Cloud and Factor), 2 captains, and 3 lieutenants. I have brought 20 prisoners with me, and sent them to Fort Smith to be exchanged. I had plenty of corn for my cavalry horses and stock. I put up a crib of corn for the Fourteenth [Kansas] above North Fork, and had a party waiting there to conduct them by abundant corn on my trail. I lost three days waiting on them. If they started to join me I cannot

conceive where they went, as there is a plain highway to North Fork. The health of my command was excellent on the trip. I started with about six days' rations, and men were out nearly a month. We captured a number of hand-mills, and as there are no mills in that country, my men subsisted by grinding corn into meal in the camp at night. So hearty were the men that on the last two days the infantry marched, respectively, 24 and 30 miles.

After striking and destroying the rebels, I sent the proclamation, and a letter each, to Governor Colbert, of the Chickasaws, Una McIntosh, Colonel Jumper, of the Seminoles, and the Choctaw council, pointing to what had been done, and notifying them that their day of grace would soon be over. I inclose copies.

If the Fourteenth had joined, I would have entered Northern Texas, and think I could have brought out recruits for a white and colored regiment. General Maxey has two batteries and is much my superior in artillery, of which I have little. He has three Texas regiments, besides what is left of the two rebel Cherokee and three rebel Choctaw regiments. The Seminoles, Creeks, and Chickasaws declare that they will not fight the Government any more. I have captured and brought out what will make a good ox train, which I am organizing to start to Fort Scott.

In the late expedition I would have entered Fort Washita, which I could have done without striking a blow, in a few hours' march. The enemy evacuated it on my expected approach, as it is 18 miles from Red River, and there is only one ford, which I could have seized and captured the whole, unless they had been able to whip me. My reasons for not going farther were that I intended the blow partly for the moral effect on the Indian nations, and wished to attempt nothing in which I might have been required to give back, and thereby revive their hopes. The Fourteenth Kansas, which was to be the backbone of the expedition, was not sent, and my men, after their fighting and skirmishing, were getting very scarce of ammunition, a very small supply of which I had been able to take. I had desired to enter Texas and bring out a regiment of mountain Federals, and also of negroes, but as the enemy could have concentrated a force on me, and as I had not the cavalry for rapid movement, I had to forego it for the time.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES IN THE FIELD,
Camp Kagi, Chickasaw Nation, February 15, 1864.

Governor COLBERT,
Of the Chickasaw Nation:

GOVERNOR: When I passed your house I could not find you. Were you a fugitive from fear, or did you flee as a man who wants to be an enemy? Had you come to me frankly you would have found a friend. The Government has not believed that you really desired to fight it, but your conduct leaves the matter in great doubt and will expose your people. Why did you send for soldiers to keep

the troops of the United States out of the Chickasaw Nation? Your treaties require you to admit their presence. Are we to understand that you now want formally to break these treaties? These questions must be answered, and answered soon. Your power as head man was not given you to gratify your prejudice or pride. You are responsible to your people, and have no right to expose them to ruin when the Government offers them mercy.

The President has issued a proclamation in which he offers pardon and peace to those who, even in this moment of its destruction, abandon this wicked and unnecessary war. You cannot fail to see the end coming. Are you justified in shutting the eyes of your people to it? The offer now made may never come back to you if neglected. The great Government of the United States will soon crush all the enemies. Let me know if you want to be among them.

I send you some letters by a prisoner to head men of some Indian nations; deliver them; they have a right to know what the United States Government says. Their blood may be upon you if you neglect it. I shall hold you accountable for their safe delivery.

I remain, with respect, yours, &c.,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces, Indian Territory.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

Headquarters U. S. Forces in the Field,
Camp Kagi, Chickasaw Nation, February 15, 1864.

To the Council of the Choctaw Nation:

I have been told that the head men of the Choctaw Nation are in council. I write to the council. I want to say to you who are acting for the Choctaw Nation and people that the President of the United States has issued a proclamation offering peace and mercy. The rebellion is coming to an end, its paper money is worthless, its means destroyed, but little of it left, and that fast going to destruction. I should not write to you, but I know you have been grossly deceived by those rebels, who made this wicked and unnecessary war to overthrow a good Government, a Government under which all had their rights, and which you know never wronged you. The President does not wish to destroy you, but everything will be destroyed that stands in the way of peace to the great Republic. As your friend and the friend of peace in the Indian Territory, I write to you to think of these things, and to see whether your people want to be destroyed in the vain hope of giving aid to a wicked rebellion. There is no possible reason why you should want to rebel against the Government that fed and protected you, and under which you had peace. Peace you will never have again until you come back to its shelter. Do not deceive your people. God will curse and they upbraid you if you do. You have to choose between peace and mercy and destruction. Bad men have deceived you and bought you with a little money that never did you any good. It will not be long before destruction comes. I think you understand I am in earnest. Do you want peace? If so, let me know before we come to destroy.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces in the Field.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES IN THE FIELD,
Camp Kagi, Chickasaw Nation, February 15, 1864.

JOHN JUMPER,
Chief of Seminoles:

COLONEL: I write to you, not that I have any interest in appealing to you, neither because I admire your courage, which I recognize even amidst the disaster of your late defeat; nor do I refer to your humiliation in the late engagement to taunt you with what your personal bravery could not prevent. I write to you because you are the recognized head of a part of the Seminole Nation, and in the behalf of those who trust you I appeal to one whom I do not believe is dead to a just sentiment. I suppose you know the responsibility of power. I do not think you desire to see your people utterly ruined. I believe that you do not wish the little remnant of their children to curse the day when you were their head. I think you and they know that neither you nor the rebels can overthrow the Government of the United States. I think you ought to know that so causeless a war to overthrow so good a Government is very wicked. I feel sure you have had no cause to rebel against the Government. Let me ask you, do you not see the end coming, and are you anxious to see your people destroyed in the ruins? Why let these demagogue rebels, who rose in arms against their Government, deceive you? Do you wish to see the Seminoles perish to cover up and hide their crimes?

The President of the United States has once more offered mercy, pardon, and peace. I strike hard, but not because the Government is cruel, but because everything must be destroyed that stands in the way of the glorious American Republic. For your people, then, I tell you to think of these things. The offer is honest; it is liberal, because the Republic is great enough to be generous. If you accept it soon, you may be preserved; if you do not, you and your people will be blotted out in blood. If you want peace let me know.

From your friend and the friend of the Seminoles,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding U. S. Forces, Indian Territory.

No. 2.

*Itinerary of the Indian Brigade.**

February 1.—Battalion of infantry, under Major Wright, marched to Rhea's Mills, 65 miles, to run mills and get forage and breadstuff. Commands from the First Indian Regiment, Colonel Wattles; Third Indian, Major Foreman; battalion Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, Major Willetts; section of Kaufman's howitzers, Captain Kaufman, with the commanding officer, marched southward across Arkansas River; reached Hillabee after a march of 75 miles.

February 5, 6; 7, *and* 8.—Had skirmishes, in which upward of 50 of the enemy were killed. Rebels fleeing southward in great confusion.

February 9 *and* 10.—Three expeditions as advance columns to Little River, which whole command reached on the 11th. The

* From return for February, 1864.

enemy was broken up into little companies, and had not time to recover. In one affair 30 were killed by Major Willetts' command, 10 by Captain Phillips', 9 by Major Foreman's, and 6 by Captain Jacobs'; 20 prisoners taken.

February 12.—Marched forward, the re-enforcements of cavalry not arriving.

February 13.—On Middle Boggy the advance had an engagement, in which 49 rebels were killed in action; left dead on the field. Rebel force completely routed and pursued considerable distance.

February 14, 15, 16, *and* 17.—Marched southward toward Washita. The rebels fleeing in all directions toward the Wichita Mountains, and some to Mexico. Rebel force under General Maxey and General Cooper fled across Red River. Colonel Baylor fled from Red River to Brazos. Ammunition expended, the command marched back to Gibson. While detached mounted forces swept the whole country for 80 miles on each side, the main command proceeded to Council Ground and Gibson. Creek, Seminole, and Chickasaw countries depopulated of their rebel inhabitants. Oxen taken for supply train. The command subsisted itself during the greater part of the expedition on corn taken in the country, ground in hand-mills taken from the enemy.

February 29.—Got back; mustered and inspected.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. Moses B. C. Wright, Second Indian Home Guard.

HDQRS. DETACH. 1ST BRIG., ARMY OF THE FRONTIER,
Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, February 27, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to instructions from your headquarters, dated January 27, 1864, I proceeded to Cane Hill and Rhea's Mills, Ark., arriving there on the 29th, for the purpose of supplying the command with flour and foraging the stock. I found soon after arriving there that Captain Buchanan with part of his company of guerrillas had crossed the Arkansas from below and was then in the mountains near Cane Hill, but was unable to get any definite information of his whereabouts, until on the night of the 8th of February he dashed into the command at Rhea's Mills and wounded 2 men. The next morning a party was started in pursuit, who, after following them through the mountains all day, came upon them, when a skirmish ensued, which resulted in killing 3 of the rebels and slightly wounding their captain. After this affair they remained very quiet, concealed in the mountains, until on the night of the 20th instant they came in near Cane Hill, and stole a Government horse out of the corral. Upon making this discovery, I started Sergt. Henry Scraper, in command of a party, in pursuit, who, after following them over the mountains about 15 miles, overtook them on the side of a steep bluff, where they had halted to rest their stock. Scraper halted and formed his men, when he charged them, completely routing them, killing Captain Buchanan and 3 of his men, besides capturing their horses, arms, saddles, bridles, blankets, clothing, &c. I captured altogether 8 horses, 3 Enfield rifles, 2 Mississippi rifles, 1 Sharps carbine, and 2 Colt navy revolvers, together with the saddles, bridles, &c., above mentioned.

On Thursday, the 25th instant, I received orders to turn over my command to Maj. Charles Willetts, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, and report in person to your headquarters, where I arrived yesterday after an absence of thirty days.

I have the honor to remain, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. B. C. WRIGHT,
Major Second Indian Regiment, Comdg. Detachment.

Lieut. WILLIAM GALLAHER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brigade.

FEBRUARY 1–MARCH 1, 1864.—Scouts from Rolla, Mo.

Reports of C. L. Woods, D. Causort, Aaron S. Vail, B. R. Moore, and F. L. Hard.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ROLLA, MO.,
February 29, 1864.

We left Rolla on the 1st of February, 1864, under orders to report to Captain Murphy, commanding post at Houston, Mo., and reported to Captain Murphy on the 3d instant, received orders from him, and on the 5th instant we started with 30 men, under command of Lieutenant Boyd, of Company K, Sixth Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, and marched to Eaton's, on Jack's Fork; distance from Houston, 22 miles. On the 6th we marched to Gilliland's, in Peace Valley; distance, 22 miles. Heard that Lieutenant Carvill, of the Fifth Regiment Missouri State Militia, had gone north on the West Plains and Houston road.

7th.—Marched to Widow Thomas' place, or Gunter Valley, in Howell County. Learned here that there were several guerrillas in the immediate vicinity, and that a small party of them had on the 6th instant hung a man by the name of Judd nearly to death. We pushed forward to the house of Mr. Judd, and learned from him that there were 84 men, under Captain Evans, about 10 miles from Thomasville, awaiting our approach. We found that we could do but little with twice our number of men, whom we heard were well mounted and armed. Lieutenant Boyd dispatched our situation to headquarters at Houston. The command encamped at Judd's, having marched 15 miles. 8th.—Scouted and foraged in the neighborhood; camped at Prock's, having marched 10 miles. 9th.—About 7 o'clock Lieutenant Hillerich arrived from Houston with 50 men and one piece of artillery. We soon formed in order, intending to march for Thomasville, when a man came from that place and informed us that Captain Evans had found out that we were expecting re-enforcements and had started before daylight in the direction of Perkins' place, on Warm Fork of Spring River. We immediately changed our course, intending, if possible, to fall in with Captain Evans; marched 24 miles, and camped at Roberts'. 10th.—Started in good time and marched to the Thomasville and Batesville road. Had gone about 1 mile when we saw 3 men coming toward us, who seeing us turned and ran. We pursued and shot one of them; the others escaped. We then continued our march toward Spring River

Mills, and about 3 miles farther on we took a man whose name was Ben Carter; but he thought us Southern troops, and when the command came up he recognized some among them and immediately broke and ran, nor could he be made to stop until he was shot down. We camped on Warm Fork, about 1 mile above the head of Spring River. In the evening we took 15 men and went up Two-Mile Creek; saw two men run from a house; we pursued and killed one of them, but the other escaped; returned to camp, having marched to-day 25 miles. 11th.—Last night we were fired into. The men fell in in good order and promptly returned the fire. Two rounds were fired on each side, and the firing ceased. In about a half hour they returned and gave us another volley. Our guard, which was detailed for the purpose, attacked and drove them back. They returned in an hour and fired six or seven shots, but our fire was too strong for them and they left. None of our men were hurt. We heard nothing more of the rebels that night.

In the morning we started for Janes' Creek. Had marched about 3 miles when we found a house in which were stored two barrels of salt, some guns, and ammunition. We burned the house and everything in it, not allowing any contraband property to be removed at all. We had just reached a safe distance from the house when we heard a loud report, which we afterwards learned was made by a keg of gunpowder which had been concealed under the floor of the house. We then marched to Janes' Creek and camped. Lieutenant Hillerich took 15 men and went with us down the creek to reconnoiter. We had marched 1 mile when we met a man who said he could take us to the house of the rebel Captain Orchards. We proceeded on our way a half mile farther, when we took another man. This man gave his name Henery, and he looked somewhat frightened. We asked him if he knew of any troops being in that neighborhood. He said that he did not. We then asked him where Freeman was, to which he replied that he knew nothing of Freeman whatever, or of any other command. While talking with him a party of men came in sight. We pursued and killed 2 of them; one of them proved to be William Lamb, a brother-in-law to Freeman and acting quartermaster to Freeman's regiment. Henery said to the men who guarded him, as soon as we started in the chase, that we had better be called back, for Freeman was camped less than 2 miles below with a strong force; but the information came too late to stop us, and in the charge we got scattered, and when all assembled at the starting point one of the scouts was missing (Woods). One of the men reported that he had seen, while passing through the woods, several men well armed and mounted, and this, together with the prisoner's statement of Freeman's camp, caused our squad to return to camp, thinking that Woods might have gone before them, but when they arrived in camp they found that he had not yet come in, and he was supposed to be taken in by the rebels. The command was in motion soon and moving in the direction of Freeman's camp; had marched about 1 mile when Woods came in all right. A council was then held, and it was determined that we should return to our camp, pick our ground, and prepare to act on the defensive in case of an attack, which we looked for that night. Marched that day 20 miles.

12th.—During the night we heard nothing of the enemy, and in the morning we were informed that Freeman was marching to Couch's place, some 10 miles in the direction of Thomasville. Of course we expected that he was going there to meet and fight us.

We were on the march in good time, and arrived at Couch's about 10 a. m., but Freeman was not there, and now we could see wherein Freeman had outgeneraled us, and instead of going to Couch's had gone some place else. We halted here for dinner, and then resumed our march. About 8 miles farther on we saw 2 men mount and run. We pursued and shot both of them. They were dressed in Federal uniform. We marched on to Thomasville and camped for the night, having marched 23 miles. 13th.—Marched to James Harris', on Turkey Oak, and camped; marched 18 miles. 14th.—This day was spent in gathering together families to move north, and in scouting through the neighborhood. 15th.—Marched to Eaton's, on Jack's Fork; distance, 20 miles. 16th.—We left a guard with the teams and came into Houston without making any further discoveries; distance, 22 miles. 17th.—Started in search of some rebels said to be on Possum Creek; found no signs, and camped at the house of Mr. Coats; marched 20 miles. 18th.—Marched down Possum to Joe Harris' place. Learned here that the guerrilla Bill Coats had been the night before at a house on Hamilton Creek. We learned that Coats had moved his camp to Big Piney. We went across to Piney, near James Johnston's place, and there scattered through the hills, hoping that some one of us might come upon the camp. We found nothing, however, and all camped together at Smiley's Mill; marched 24 miles. 19th.—We scouted on Piney and Possum, but found nothing; camped at Jos. Gladdon's place; distance, 20 miles.

20th.—We marched to No. 1 on Piney; distance, 18 miles. 21st.—Marched to camp at Houston without making any discoveries worthy of note. 22d.—We started in the direction of Waynesville; marched to Kivott's; distance, 20 miles. 23d.—Went to Waynesville and reported to Major Fischer; 18 miles. 24th.—Started up Roubidoux; marched to Finley's; 15 miles. 25th.—Marched up the Roubidoux some 20 miles, and for want of forage were obliged to march to Houston, being 40 miles from Finley's farm. 26th.—Started for Rolla in the evening, and marched 8 miles. 27th.—Marched 30 miles and camped. 28th.—Arrived in Rolla safe and sound. 29th.—Reported to commanding officer District of Rolla.

C. L. WOODS.
D. CAUSORT.
AARON S. VAIL,
Chief of Scouts.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ROLLA, MO.,
March 2, 1864.

Left Rolla on the 1st of February, 1864, under orders to report to Major Fischer, commanding post at Waynesville. Reported to that officer on the 2d, and received orders the same day, and in company with 5 men, under command of Lieutenant Bates, of Company E, Fifth Regiment Missouri State Militia, marched north of Waynesville some 6 miles. Learned here that the guerrillas, whom we were in search of, had gone in a southwest direction. We pursued them into Texas County, near the farm of one Lowe, on the Roubidoux. About sunrise on the second day after we left camp we ran into the camp of some 16 or 18 guerrillas, commanded by the notorious outlaw Frank Smith. We charged on the camp and routed them completely; killed 7 men and captured 7 horses, saddles, and bridles,

together with a quantity of plunder of various kinds. We followed the trail of the flying thieves as long as we could, but they broke for the brush, and it was impossible to follow them mounted. We then scouted in a northeast direction, and on the 6th we arrived in camp at Waynesville, having lost no men or horses.

On the morning of the 7th we received orders from Major Fischer to go in search of some guerrillas who had fired into the stage between Waynesville and the Gasconade. Marched 4 miles on the Springfield road, and then turned northwest and went into Moccasin Bend, on the Gasconade. Found several old camps here, but apparently deserted for some weeks. We then marched south, crossed the Springfield road, and shortly afterward we struck the trail of the bushwhackers going south; followed them up Roubidoux into Texas County, where they broke up and scattered through the hills, so that we could not possibly follow them. Here we turned and took a northeast course and came to the farm of Judge Bates. Here we learned that there was a man by the name of J. W. Tigg, a man well known as a guerrilla, [who] was then at his home in that neighborhood. We went to the house of Tigg, who broke and ran as we were approaching the house. We pursued him, but he had the advantage of us, being mounted on a horse both fresh and fleet, while our own were completely jaded and worn out. From this place we scouted through the country, generally in the direction of Waynesville, where we arrived on the 12th all right. On the 13th we left camp and marched in a southerly direction. We scouted the country in this direction, and returned to camp on the 19th without having made any discoveries worthy of note.

Our horses being completely worn out we were obliged to recruit them for a day or two, after which we again started in a northerly direction. We scouted the country in this direction until the 25th, when we returned to camp. We learned that Burt Woods was about 5 miles south of Waynesville with a gang of thieves, numbering somewhere in the vicinity of 30 or 40. We started in an easterly course until we struck the trail by which we supposed Woods and his gang would pass in the morning. Upon examination, however, we found that the guerrillas had already passed. At once we commenced our march on his track. About 10 a. m. we ran into the party about 2 miles from Mr. Lewis' place, on Spring Creek. We charged on them while they were in the act of making prisoners of Mr. Lewis and another Union man. The guerrillas undertook to give us a fight, but we dashed at them with such unearthly yells that they could not stand our approach. They broke for the woods, and we got but 2 men with their horses and rigging. One of the men killed was supposed to be Burt Woods, the leader of the band. We learned from one of the men before he died that there were about 60 bushwhackers in that vicinity, some of whom had gone north to Miller County. We then started for camp, where we arrived all right on the evening of the 29th.

We would here state that all contraband property taken by us during the past month has been turned over to Major Fischer, commanding post at Waynesville. On the 1st of March we started for Rolla, where we arrived on the same evening safe and sound.

B. R. MOORE.
F. L. HARD.
AARON S. VAIL.
Chief of Scouts.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ROLLA,
Rolla, Mo., March 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the department commander. I would here take occasion to remark that the detachment at Waynesville, Mo., has always exhibited creditable zeal in ridding the section of guerrillas and horse thieves, and deserves the praise and confidence of those in authority.

JOS. A. EPPSTEIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding District.

FEBRUARY 1–MARCH 7, 1864.—Operations in New Mexico and Arizona.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Asa B. Carey, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, of operations in New Mexico.
No. 2.—Capt. Francis McCabe, First New Mexico Cavalry, of operations in New Mexico.
No. 3.—Maj. Edward B. Willis, First California Infantry, of operations in Arizona.
No. 4.—Capt. James H. Whitlock, Fifth California Infantry, of operations in Arizona.

No. 1.

Reports of Capt. Asa B. Carey, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, of operations in New Mexico.

HEADQUARTERS NAVAJO EXPEDITION,
Fort Canby, N. Mex., February 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 26th instant a party of Mexican citizens arrived at this post from an unsuccessful pursuit of a party of Navajo ladrones who had robbed them of some stock. They are from the Rio Arriba, and traversed the country from that place through the Chusco, making a thorough examination of the country at the base of the Juanico range of mountains and in the vicinity of El Cañon de Chelle, but without discovering but one Indian, whom they killed. I informed this party that for the present, that so long as the Indians continued coming in for immigration in such large numbers, that active operations would not be renewed against them; that all stock of whatever description brought in by them is assured to them so long as they remained under my protection, and that all claims must be sent in to the general commanding for adjudication; that any attack made on these people now would in all probability injure those who were coming in in good faith, the evil consequences of which it would be difficult to estimate. There is no question but what it would have the effect of stopping the arrivals, thereby protracting the war indefinitely and sacrificing the results of the last campaign. They fully coincided with my views and agreed to return. They being destitute, I furnished them provisions for this purpose.

Although citizens cannot be blamed, but must, on the contrary, be praised for their energy in pursuing so far the robbers of their flocks, their hereditary foe, the Navajo, they should at the same time understand that any act of hostility committed against the Navajo

at present may place a barrier in the way of carrying out the wise measures now in successful progress of freeing this Territory from the lawless acts of these people. Of course this forbearance has no reference to those who leave this country for purposes of pillage.

I have now here 2,500 Indians awaiting transportation, besides about 500 already sent from this post since the return of Colonel Carson from the Cañon de Chelle, and they are daily arriving. In about two days I expect a train of ten teams, which, with the number of teams I shall be able to send of the depot transportation, will, I think, enable me to send all away who are now here. In the mean time I have them employed bringing in grass as part payment for their food. The moment they cease coming in hostilities will be again resumed with the usual vigor. Having been informed that there was a band of ladrones inhabiting the hills west of Bear Springs, I detached Capt. F. McCabe with 50 men yesterday morning with instructions to break up their rendezvous and punish them.

Taking advantage of the temporary cessation of hostilities I have established drills, by which the troops are being much benefited.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. B. CAREY,

Captain, Thirteenth Infantry, Commanding.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Santa Fé, N. Mex.

HEADQUARTERS NAVAJO EXPEDITION,

Fort Canby, N. Mex., March 6, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that on the 4th instant I dispatched from this post en route to Bosque Redondo 2,103 Navajo Indians. Capt. John Thompson, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers, went in charge of the escort and Indians. The escort consisted of the men re-enlisted as veteran volunteers (5 non-commissioned officers and 22 privates) and 2 non-commissioned officers and 23 privates of Company K, First Cavalry, New Mexico Volunteers. Captain Thompson has orders that on his arrival at Los Pinos he will proceed with the Indians to the Bosque, taking with him as an escort the veteran volunteers and dispatching the men of Company K as escort to my transportation, which is directed to return from Los Pinos to this post. The transportation furnished was a Government train (Robinson's, late Russell's) of eight 10-mule wagons and twenty 6-mule wagons from this post. Six of these are wagons which I am directed to return to Fort Union depot; fourteen belong to and are to return to this post from Los Pinos, together with the mules of the six wagons which are to be forwarded to Union.

There are now at the mail station, Old Fort Fauntleroy, 35 Indians, which I directed Captain Thompson to take on with him. This will make the total number under his charge 2,138, a larger number than has ever been sent at any one time before with the same amount of transportation. I have now at this post 400, which will be forwarded as soon as practicable. On the 8th instant I shall start out scouting parties. One I shall send to Chusca Valley and its vicinity; another to Cañon de Chelle, Mesa de la Baca, and Callabasas, and to examine the country west of this post. The Indians who left on the 4th instant with Captain Thompson had, and took

with them, 473 head of horses and 3,000 head of sheep. All seemed contented and desirous of leaving a country where they say they have no rest. Those here now are also desirous of leaving for the Bosque. If all have not come in the scouting parties which will be sent out will, I trust, very soon induce them to do so.

The party brought in by Captain McCabe, who was sent from this post on the 27th of last month, are undoubtedly a part of the band which has infested the road between this post and Fort Wingate. I shall take especial pains to see that all this party are disposed of. I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of Captain McCabe's report, which explains itself.

Since the 20th of last month 126 Indians have died at this post, making, with those just sent to the Bosque, a reduction of 2,264 Navajoes from the population of this country. This, I am satisfied, is a larger number than could have been subdued and forced to give themselves up had a vigorous war been continued. The truce which I extended to them expired on the first of this month, and Captain McCabe was in the field to convince them of the fact. I shall keep as many troops in the field as practicable until further orders. As a matter of necessity, I sent nearly all my transportation to the river with the Indians, who had to be fed, and the longer they stayed here the lower they reduced my commissariat. Those here now will be sent to the river within ten days. I have sufficient transportation on hand now to enable me to push the war vigorously in this vicinity. In this country men re-enlisting cannot get the benefits of the furlough granted to veteran volunteers in the States. For that reason I directed Captain Thompson to proceed to the Bosque with the veteran volunteers as a reward to them, and to compensate for the furlough which it is impossible to grant them in this country. I trust that my policy and manner of conducting operations against the Navajoes since the departure of Colonel Carson will meet with the approval of the department commander.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. CAREY,
Captain, Thirteenth Infantry, Commanding.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Francis McCabe, First New Mexico Cavalry, of operations in New Mexico.

FORT CANBY, N. MEX., *March* 4, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I left this post on the 27th ultimo with a command consisting of 3 sergeants, 5 corporals, and 42 privates of Company L, First New Mexico Cavalry, rationed for ten days, pursuant to Post Orders, No. —, dated Fort Canby, N. Mex., February 26, 1864. On reporting to Capt. A. B. Carey, commanding officer, I received verbal instructions to proceed to Fort Fauntleroy with my command, and on my arrival to select from among the party at the mail station some man possessing a sufficient knowledge of the country in that vicinity who could conduct me in search of an

Indian encampment supposed to be located somewhere in that neighborhood. Captain Carey likewise advised me that the band of Navajoes above referred to were perhaps the same Indians that had made the attack on Russell's train, fired on our express riders, and that had so long annoyed our communications with Fort Wingate and Los Pinos; and he directed me to march by moonlight in time to reach and surprise their camp by sunrise, when I was to use proper discretion in the matter, and either receive the band as prisoners in case they should surrender or chastise them to the utmost extent of my ability should they offer resistance.

I arrived at Fort Fauntleroy on the 29th ultimo, and was informed by Sergt. J. Martin Bird, commanding detachment at mail station, that his command had been lately relieved, and that none of the men then on duty at the station knew anything about the locality of the hostile camp. I was fortunate enough to find, however, a Navajo captive at the station, who volunteered to conduct me to the camp and act as guide and interpreter. Leaving Fort Fauntleroy on the 1st instant, I marched to a point south of the Rio Puerco, known as the Cañon Well, where I arrived at night-fall and encamped. I gave orders to have the command under arms at moonrise, and accordingly, when the moon rose, my party was in motion on the trail leading to the Indian camp. The path taken by my guide led in a westerly direction for several miles along the level valley of the Rio Puerco, and then turned abruptly to the north, ascending an elevated ridge covered with a growth of evergreens, such as spruce, cedar, and piñon, and traversing a country furrowed and broken in every direction, thereby rendering my progress much slower than I had anticipated. I proceeded onward as rapidly as practicable, and at sunrise I reached a point from which my guide showed me the smokes of the enemy's camp-fires. From this point the only practicable approach was across a plain about a mile in width, and the probability was that my command would be observed by the savages, but as there was no alternative I marched forward at double-quick time. I had passed over more than two-thirds of the distance when, as I had anticipated, the alarm was given by 3 Indians, who had left the camp in search of water. The alarm spread so rapidly that by the time the head of my command reached one side of the camp the last savage was retreating under cover of the forest timber on the other. In their flight the Indians abandoned all their camp equipage, cooking utensils, and even portions of their clothing. Large quantities of wild potatoes were found in camp, which formed their chief article of subsistence, and which they obtained in the neighboring plain by digging. The surface of the plain had been dug up in various directions by the Indians in their search for the potatoes, and presented the appearance of having been rooted by herds of swine. Great numbers were found roasted at the camp-fires, and were eagerly eaten by my men, who had left camp in light marching order, unencumbered by blankets or haversacks. On entering the camp I sent my interpreter forward to the crest of a knoll in the vicinity, with instructions to hail the dispersed Navajoes, and tell them that unless they came in and surrendered themselves I would divide my command and pursue them immediately, in which case they need expect no quarter; but that in case they should surrender I would take them to Fort Canby, where the commanding officer would furnish them with means to travel to the reservation set apart for the friendly Navajoes. After a short parley, the interpreter came into camp followed by most of

the warriors, who expressed themselves very willing to remove to the reservation; said that they were glad they were informed in time, and requested leave to bring in their families, who were dispersed in the neighboring ravines. This I readily granted, and told the warriors that I would return to my camp at the Puerco, where I should expect to see them at sundown. Soon after I marched back to my camp, and at sundown I had the satisfaction of seeing the entire band (110 Indians in all) at my camp.

I started back on the morning of the 3d instant, and reached this post on the afternoon of the 4th instant with 112 Indians, having captured 2 Indians on the road. One of the teamsters of Russell's train recognized the Indian who shot Mr. Russell among those that I brought in. I entertain the hope that the removal of these Indians will render the transmission of mails and the passage of small trains a duty of less danger in future. During the scout the bearing and behavior of my men were all that I could expect from good soldiers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS McCABE,
Captain Company L, First Cavalry, New Mexico Vols.

Second Lieut. JOSEPH LAUGHLIN,
Post Adjutant.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. Edward B. Willis, First California Infantry, of operations in Arizona.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Whipple, Ariz., February 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that since my last a party of miners, under lead of Mr. King Woolsey, followed the tracks of animals stolen from them, and overtook the Indians in the Pinal country beyond the San Francisco River. They succeeded in killing 24; a party of Maricopas at the same time killed 9. To-morrow morning I shall start in that direction accompanying Governor Goodwin. We propose to examine the country with a view to the selection of a proper site for a town in the geographical center of the Territory; also a proper location for the military post. This point, if the country meets our expectations, will undoubtedly be the capital. The commission appointed in General Orders, No. —, have not yet selected a site for the post, not having the proper opportunities for examining the country. A party of about 75 miners will accompany this expedition, and we propose to afford them all facilities possible in prospecting the country over which we pass, and at the same time, if possible, to strike a blow at the Indians, having at all times the main objects of the expedition in view.

There would be considerable quantities of grain sown in this vicinity this season, but on attempting to procure seed from the Pima villages the rancheros have been forbidden by the Government agent, Mr. Allen, from purchasing a single pound. It is too late for them to send to California or New Mexico for seed, and will be a serious drawback upon this portion of Arizona. I am very much pleased with the agricultural and farming lands in this section, and

respectfully request that if possible garden seed may be sent to this post as soon as practicable. We have already a small assortment, but need more. Grape cuttings, no doubt, will do extremely well here.

The people of this section are very much excited with regard to the Indian disturbances, so much so that last week, during a visit to the mines, I noticed men working with arms beside them, and it is not considered safe to leave their dwellings without them. Unless immediate steps are taken to quell these Indians it will be of serious detriment to the Territory. I shall do all in my power in this direction, and respectfully request the general commanding to furnish me with his views upon this subject.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

EDWARD B. WILLIS,

Maj. First Infantry, California Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. BENJAMIN C. CUTLER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Santa Fé, N. Mex.

No. 4.

Reports of Capt. James H. Whitlock, Fifth California Infantry, of operations in Arizona.

HEADQUARTERS,

Camp Rio Mimbres, Ariz., March 1, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that on Wednesday, the 24th [ultimo], I received a communication from Los Pinos Altos, stating that Indians had visited that place on the 13th instant, and that the citizens were in great fear, as the Indians had told them they would return on or about Thursday, the 25th. I at once concluded to try and catch them, if possible; so I left with 21 men on the evening of the 24th instant [ultimo] at 8 p. m., taking an old and indirect route, determined not to be seen, traveled until 4 a. m. of the 25th, and secreted myself in a cañon until 9 p. m., then started again and went within about 3 miles of the town, hid again, and sent in a spy. He returned before daylight, saying there were no Indians there; so I laid over, hid in the thick brush, intending to lie there as long as I could to await for their arrival in town. They came about noon; word came, and I started to the place at about 5 p. m., arriving there just at dusk. I made an attack immediately. There were 19 of them, and I killed 13, including the notorious chief Louis, successor to Mangas Colorado, chief of the Gila tribes. In my opinion not one escaped with a whole hide. This chief is the same that killed Private Bay, of Company D, First Infantry, California Volunteers, at Fort West, last fall, and the same that I had a fight with in Sierra Blanca Mountains in September last. I also captured a Mexican woman from them (whose narrative I append to this report as containing some very useful information) and one pony and bows and arrows in abundance. I followed those who escaped the next day about 7 or 8 miles, but could not overtake them. Returned safely to camp on the 29th without the slightest accident of any kind; not a man hurt. Marijenia Figueira says:

My father's family lived at Banamichi, a small mining town in Sonora. When I was seven years old the town was attacked by Indians. Myself and sister were taken prisoners and carried off; also a few other children of the town; besides this

all the people of the town were killed, including my father and mother. This is my sister, the wife of Julian Aguirre. She was a prisoner five years; I have been a prisoner fifteen years; am twenty-two years old. During the whole time I have been a slave for Louis and his family; have been treated well; have never been married; have no children. Louis and 3 warriors were all of Mangas Colorado's tribe that were here; all the others were of the Chiricahua tribe. Louis and all of the warriors belonging to his tribe were killed; he was acting chief of the party. If we had got off well this time Cochise and his tribe would have come next time. All the Indians that came with this party were living near the mouth of Black River. We came by Fort West; have been eight days coming. The Navajoes are at war with all the other tribes that I know of. They took all our stock; left us very poor; very poor indeed. We have no stock except 3 ponies, and 1 of these the soldiers got last night. We have no dried meat; have nothing to live upon except mescal; have no dried mescal; have a very hard matter to gather enough to do from day to day. Can occasionally kill a deer. Have no powder or guns. Our guns are nearly all worn out. We only get a little powder occasionally, when we can kill somebody. The Navajoes got some of our guns. We have no clothing. We have to live down in the valleys. We cannot live up in the mountains; it is too cold. Ruñon and Victoria get powder and lead from a man named Zuloaga, who lives in Corralitos, Mexico. Sometimes we get some powder from Ruñon. Zuloaga is always on friendly terms with us, even when his Government is at war with us. Ruñon and Victoria are both over this way somewhere. I think Ruñon and part of his people are in the Florida Mountains or at Lake Guzman to make campaigns against Las Cruces and Mimbres River.

William Aguirre is a citizen of Pinos Altos, and the captured woman was turned over to him. She desires to live with her sister. I feel it to be my duty to acknowledge valuable service rendered by Mr. William Market, in connection with this report; also Mr. Julian Aguirre.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. WHITLOCK,

Capt., Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers, Commanding.

Col. GEORGE W. BOWIE,

Comdg. District of Arizona, Franklin, Tex.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP MIMBRES,

March 7, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform the colonel commanding that on the morning of the 3d instant Juan Arroyas (my Mexican guide and scout) reported to me that some Indians had just crossed the road with some cattle about 6 miles from here, going southward. I thought best to look after them a little, so I sent Lieutenant Burkett and 14 enlisted men mounted on wagon mules to give chase. Lieutenant Burkett followed them to the Florida Mountains, a distance of about 50 miles, but could not overtake them. He reports that a very large body of Indians has been encamped there for some time past, and appears to have left about three or four days ago; that they have had a considerable amount of stock; that stock has been driven to that place from every direction, but has all been driven away in the direction of Lake Guzman. The Indians are very plenty around here nowadays, and if you will give me a fair show I will catch some more of them, but as it is, I have hardly troops enough to guard my herd and keep them off it. My men come on guard duty every third day and on police once between guards, when all are here; when part are gone on a scout we all have to stand guard. I have had to discharge the duties of sergeant of the guard myself in order to keep the non-commissioned officers from remain-

ing on duty forty-eight hours without being relieved. My orderly sergeant is detailed regularly when there is a detachment out. My standing instructions are to "strike at them whenever I can," but how can I do anything with so small a garrison and a Government herd to look out for? But if Company I comes along in a few days I think of halting them a few days and go after those fellows, unless I shall receive orders to the contrary. They are reported as being in such numbers that I do not feel safe with less than 50 men. I should like very much to know your pleasure in regard to this matter, as it could very probably be obtained in time. I believe I could catch a good number of them, and probably some stock.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. WHITLOCK,
Captain, Fifth Infantry, California Vols., Commanding.

Capt. C. A. SMITH,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hart's Mills, Tex.

FEBRUARY 2, 1864.—Skirmish on Halcolm Island, Mo.

Report of Capt. William Dawson, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

[BLOOMFIELD, MO.,] *February* 4, 1864.

COLONEL: Captain Shibley has returned, bringing 8 prisoners, among the number John Bolin. He killed 7 men and took 13 horses. The party was attacked on Halcolm Island and numbered about 35, principally the Bolin gang. They were on this side foraging. He captured 15 wagons of corn—all citizens' wagons. The captain reports 400 men to cross at Jones' Ferry to-day to march for this place. He destroyed the ferry. All this without the loss of a man on our side. I will send the prisoners to-morrow morning to the Cape with Captain Shibley.

WM. DAWSON,
Captain, Commanding.

Col. J. B. ROGERS.
Cape Girardeau.

FEBRUARY 3-6, 1864.—Expedition from Brashear City, La.

Report of Col. Nicholas W. Day, One hundred and thirty-first New York Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Brashear City, La., February 6, 1864.

SIR: I would respectfully submit to the colonel commanding the district the following report of the expedition commanded by me, consisting of 75 infantry and one section of artillery, on the steamers J. M. Brown and Red Chief, which left here the evening of the 3d instant:

We proceeded up Grand Lake into Lac Fausse Pointe, at the extreme northern point of which we landed, at Dauterive's plantation.

Saw some pickets of the enemy, who ran away as we approached. Found a good landing with 4 feet of water, and a good road to Saint Martinville. Discovered traces of a camp that had been occupied lately by a force, perhaps 1,500 strong. There was a small work running across the road about 1,200 paces from the landing, with an abatis in front of it. Everything was deserted. Did not see anything of the force said to be on the lake. From there went up Bayou L'Embarras, but saw nothing. Obtained some 3 mules and 3 horses; one was marked "U. S." Have turned them over to the quartermaster. Returned through Lac Fausse Pointe and proceeded up Grand Lake through Lake Chicot, Bayou Chene, Lake Maringoula and Bayou Tensas, into Grand River, and landed at Offutt's saw-mill, where we took on some lumber. Sent 2 men in a skiff down Grand River, who returned and reported that they saw some men running down on the banks of the bayou.

Went down with the steamer Red Chief and came to a small bayou, up which I sent Captain Evans with a small party. The men we were after took to the woods, excepting one, who remained with a flat-boat. He was taken in tow and brought to the steamer. He had on board his flat 5 or 6 bales of dry-goods, a box of sundries, a lot of curry-combs, 4 or 5 sacks of coffee, 1 bale of rope, flour, potatoes, 3 bottles of quinine, with other parcels of medicine, &c., and $30,000 in Confederate money, all of which I turned over to the provost-marshal. He had no papers authorizing him to take the goods outside of the lines, but said the officers at Plaquemine knew of it. He gave his name as Thorn. I also overhauled 2 Jews, who produced passes from provost-marshal to go outside the lines, and whom I then let go. I also took on Grand River, near Offutt's mill, 12½ hogsheads of sugar. A man there claimed it and also claimed to be a Union man, and whom I brought down with me. The sugar I turned over to the post commissary. By all I can learn there is quite an extensive trade carried on between Plaquemine and Butte à la Rose. I also took a Confederate soldier, who claimed to be a deserter; but doubting his story, brought him with me and delivered him to the provost-marshal. From Grand River we returned by way of Whisky Bay and Bayou La Rampe and Grand Lake, picking up on the way 2 men, who were running the lines.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICHOLAS W. DAY,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. WILLIAM J. DENSLOW,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
La Fourche District, February 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to department headquarters, and particular notice is called to so much as alludes to smuggling between Plaquemine and Butte à la Rose. This same information has been received several times before and forwarded to department headquarters.

EDWARD L. MOLINEUX,
Colonel, Commanding.

FEBRUARY 4–8, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up White River, Ark.

Report of Capt. Charles O'Connell, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HELENA, ARK., *February* 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of scout up White River: I embarked on steamer Cheek February 4, 1864, at 8.50 a. m., in command of 100 men Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, 40 Third Arkansas, African Descent, Captain Robinson, and 7 men, with one piece of artillery, Lieutenant Hadlock. Left Helena 9 a. m., proceeded toward Friar's Point, destroyed one flat-boat; arrived at Friar's Point 11 a. m.; found four cotton-boats there. The gun-boat had been ordered to Memphis.

In your dispatch to Captain Brown, of gun-boat, you wanted the steamer White ordered to Helena. I took discretionary power to order all of them to report to your headquarters, as I thought that they could be easily captured by the rebels, as they had no gun-boat to protect them. I then proceeded on; arrived Island 63 at 12 m., delivered dispatches; passed gun-boat Eastport at Island 65, the steamer Rike alongside; arrived at Island 66 at 2.20 p. m. The steamer Emerald with troops stopped to wood; had no dispatch for the officer commanding island; arrived at mouth of White River 6 p. m., reported to Captain Prichett, delivered dispatch, disembarked cavalry, and remained at the mouth of White River until morning, as it was not safe to run up at night.

February 5, embarked and moved up White River at 8.30 a. m., no convoy going up; stopped at 12 m. on west side; took three cords wood; arrived at the mouth of Big Creek, 3 miles below Indian Bay, at 5.30 p. m.; distance down Mississippi, 95 miles; White, 74 miles; disembarked cavalry to feed and water; took two cords wood. I got information that Mayo's and Davis' companies had gone to General McRae's headquarters; embarked and proceeded up Indian Bay at 12.30 a. m.; arrived at Indian Bay Landing 2.30 a. m.; disembarked and left Captain Robinson, Third Arkansas, African Descent, in command of the boat, with orders to remain twenty-four hours at the landing; then, if he did not get other orders, to report to Helena, Ark. I moved toward Colonel Boyce's plantation; captured 5 prisoners at houses on the road; arrived at Boyce's, 8.30, February 6, 1864; got positive information that Mayo's and Davis' companies had gone to McRae's headquarters, to organize into a battalion to return in about ten days. Fed horses and breakfasted at Boyce's; examined his papers and letters. He informed me that he had one revolver, and had fifteen bales of cotton upstairs hid from the rebels. They had been encamped on his place. I took his revolver, but did not arrest him, as I could not get information that he had been giving aid to the rebels. They took it. He is coming to Helena to report in a few days.

While there I got information that Casteel's company was encamped 3½ miles from Boyce's. I started immediately for his camp, got within one-half mile of it. Met a negro that had just returned from the picket, informing them that we were in the country. I arrested him and made him pilot me to the camp. I found their pickets about 40 rods from their camp, on the opposite side of a cypress swamp; could see their men, about 18, in line, mounted. We fired at the picket, and then charged for them. We could only go

by files through the swamp, and in the path the water and mud was 4 feet deep. As soon as we fired the company ran back over the hill, and as soon as the advance got over the swamp they scattered in all directions. The woods were very thick and very miry. I ordered my men to charge as foragers after them; followed them about 2 miles, scattering them in all directions. I captured 2 prisoners, 4 horses, shot 1 horse, 6 guns, and all their camp and garrison equipage. They had plenty of meat, salt, meal, and corn. I burned and destroyed one crib of corn (500 bushels) and all the other stores and equipage. My horses were very tired and nearly given out. After the charge I started toward Big Creek. The roads were very bad, and the creek was swimming. The horses were not fit to swim, and no prospects of getting any more prisoners, I returned to the boat after resting awhile; arrived at the boat at 6 p. m., embarked and proceeded to mouth of Big Creek; found gun-boat with convoy there bound down; staid there till daylight February 7, then proceeded to mouth of White River; arrived there at 12 m., stopped half an hour, then moved up the Mississippi River for Helena; landed at wood-yard, took five cords of wood; arrived at Helena, Ark., 3 a. m., February 8, 1864.

I succeeded in capturing 7 prisoners, 16 horses, 3 mules, 6 Colt revolvers, 12 guns destroyed. The following are the names, rank, and regiment: Alexander Newman, Casteel's company, Dobbin's regiment; W. P. Erley, Casteel's company, Dobbin's regiment; James South, Twentieth Arkansas Regiment; Nathan Clement, Hawthorn's regiment; John M. Barry, Texas Legion; J. F. Westbrook, taken with Texas Legion soldier in arms; John Darr, Elliott's battalion of cavalry, He was captured, dressed in our U. S. uniform. He says his company is at Cotton Plant, 50 in number, all dressed with U. S. uniform with red star on left breast. They have been detached to this side of the Mississippi River, and crossed about thirty days ago.

When I returned to mouth of White River Captain Prichett, U. S. Army gun-boat, turned over 1 prisoner to be delivered to you. He says he is a rebel courier, and he has evidence against him that he carries news of boats coming for the guerrillas to come and shoot at them. His name is Dawson Rouse.

There are about fifty bales of cotton in Indian Bay settlement, but the cypress slough was so muddy I could [not get] it out at present. At the landing on Indian Bay there are 5,000 bushels of corn, and through the settlement within 5 miles of the landing there are about 25,000 bushels of corn.

Our troops have never been in the settlement but once before, and that was a year ago last September. The country is well supplied to feed guerrillas, as nearly all are strong secesh. I recruited 6 good soldiers for the battery of African descent. I took some meat for the command, but they would not take Uncle Sam's receipt, and I guess the boys got some secesh chickens that had not taken the oath to the United States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. O'CONNELL.

Captain Company G, 15th Illinois Cavalry, Comdg. Scout.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 5–17, 1864.—Scout from Houston, Mo., into Arkansas, with skirmishes.

Report of Capt. Richard Murphy, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF HOUSTON,
Houston, Mo., February 18, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the scout sent out from this post on the 5th instant, under command of Lieutenant Boyd, returned yesterday. Lieutenant Boyd's report shows that he penetrated several miles into Arkansas, and was at one time within about 3 miles of Colonel Freeman's camp, though at the time not aware of his proximity. From information gained, the lieutenant says Freeman's whole force may be estimated at from 400 to 500 men, and that they are very poorly armed and supplied with ammunition. The scout was frequently fired on from the brush while below Thomasville. The lieutenant returned the fire a number of times and in this way killed 7 of the guerrillas, including Colonel Freeman's quartermaster, Lieutenant Lamb. He also captured and brought in 3 prisoners, 8 horses, 2 mules, and a few worthless guns.

I would respectfully suggest that if a scout of about three companies was sent down to Spring River and allowed to remain there for a fortnight, they could effectually break up this band of thieves. Lieutenant Boyd reports that there is plenty of forage for a force of 300 for the period mentioned, and that subsistence can easily be obtained for that number of men.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
RICHARD MURPHY,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. J. LOVELL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Rolla, Mo.

FEBRUARY 6–10, 1864.—Scout in the Sni Hills, Mo.

Report of Capt. Charles F. Coleman, Ninth Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Pleasant Hill, Mo., February 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: After hunting bushwhackers faithfully for four days, I returned late last night to this place, with all the troops under my command. I did not meet with as good success as I had hoped to, but did finally succeed in driving them out of the Sni Hills, in which place I think there were about 200 of them. We found them in parties numbering from 10 to 40, but they were so watchful and so wild that we could not get anything but a running fight out of them, of which kind we had a good many. We took 2 horses from them, wounded 1. They have all gone east and northeast. I intend to bushwhack them when they return.

C. F. COLEMAN,
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. J. M. HADLEY,
Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist of the Border

FEBRUARY 7, 1864.—Affair at the mouth of Caney Bayou, Tex.

Report of Brig. Gen. Hamilton P. Bee, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD,
Ewing's Plantation, February 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy fired sixty-six shots at the fort at the mouth of Caney with great accuracy, wounding 3 men and 3 horses. The command behaved with great coolness. When an official report is made I will forward a copy for the information of the major-general commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. P. BEE,
Brigadier-General.

Brigadier-General SLAUGHTER, *Chief of Staff.*

FEBRUARY 7, 1864.—Skirmish at Vidalia, La.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hubert A. McCaleb, Second Mississippi Heavy Artillery, African Descent.

HDQRS. 2D MISSISSIPPI ARTILLERY, AFRICAN DESCENT,
Natchez, Miss., February 9, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I most respectfully submit the following as a correct account of the action of my command, in pursuance to your order of the 7th instant, which was received by me at 2.30 p. m. of same date:

You will get your command in readiness and cross the river by the first boat to Vidalia, La., and report to Colonel Farrar, who is being pressed by overwhelming numbers of the enemy.

Upon receiving the order, I at once formed a line of every able-bodied man in camp, and leaving instructions with the senior convalescent officer to detail a camp guard from the convalescents, I started on double-quick to the landing with seven companies, numbering in all 432 men. To account clearly for the remainder of my command I will call your attention to orders issued by you some time since, detaching one company (A), under command of Capt. James T. Organ, as mounted scouts for the post of Vidalia, and one battalion (Third) of four companies, under Maj. George D. Reynolds, to take charge of the siege guns in the fortifications surrounding Camp McPherson. This latter battalion being not armed with small-arms, I deemed it prudent to let them remain at Camp McPherson, although both officers and men begged eagerly for permission to accompany me.

On arriving at the landing I was met by Colonel Kent, who ordered me to embark with my command on the steamer Diligent as quickly as possible, which was done at the double-quick, and at the tap of the bell the lines were unfastened and we were sailing to help our comrades at Vidalia. At the landing on the Louisiana shore there was an orderly with orders from Colonel Farrar to form my line of battle in front of the levee and await further orders; this was soon done, and soon an order came from Colonel Farrar to move out on the Trinity road 150 yards and form a new line, with one battalion of three companies on the right, under command of Maj. Charles W. Smith, the other of four companies on the left of the road, commanded by myself, to support the section of artillery planted directlyin the road, with an interval between of sufficient space to work the artillery.

This being done, I received orders to detach 30 men to occupy and defend the jail building. This I obeyed. About this time heavy skirmishing began on our front, and soon the rebel flag was seen advancing toward our left, from the skirt of woods across the level plain, and next their main column came plainly in sight. Judging from the length of their line and number of flags, there were in this column two regiments, numbering from 1,200 to 1,500 men in all, marching in line of battle, one regiment a few rods in rear of the other, and distant from us about one-half mile. At this time I was ordered to move my battalion to a high piece of ground to my left oblique, about 300 yards, and join Captain Organ, who had command of his own and one company of the Seventh Louisiana, my left to rest near his right; the whole command faced to the left from my first position. By the time I had reached this point the enemy's skirmishers had advanced near enough to become very annoying, and although my men had never before been under fire they came up promptly on the double-quick and formed a line, under a heavy skirmish fire, with as much coolness as could veterans of many battles. This checked the advance of their skirmishers, who were now from 75 to 100 paces in front of our line.

On their main body came in splendid style, carrying their arms at a support, presenting a most formidable front, until within about 150 or 200 yards distant, when I received orders from Colonel Farrar to open fire, which I immediately gave to the men, and they executed it by giving one splendid volley, well aimed. This caused the enemy to falter and lie down. I immediately ordered the men to load, which they did with great coolness, and with one more well-aimed volley the rebel ranks were broken, and their men, panic-stricken, ran away in great confusion. I ordered my men to load and fire by file at the fleeing mob, and with difficulty prevented them from breaking ranks to follow the enemy, their anxiety being great to do so. I received no orders to advance. I held my position until a late hour at night, when I received orders to fall back to the levee.

Thus a force of 300 colored soldiers put to flight, in great confusion, four or five times their number of the chivalrous enemy, with a loss to them of 1 killed, 5 wounded (some mortally), and a number of prisoners. Not a man of my command was hurt. The line officers and men did their whole duty. Capt. James T. Organ, commanding two companies, maneuvered them with skill and behaved with gallantry.

Maj. Charles W. Smith, commanding battalion in reserve, informs me that he and the line officers of his command were obliged to place themselves before their men with drawn swords, and threaten summary punishment to the first man who would attempt to quit the ranks to join their comrades fighting in the front, their eagerness to be engaged being almost irrepressible.

To Surgeons Ferris, Peal, and Mitchell are due the thanks of the officers and men of the regiment for their thoughtfulness in following with the means to make the men comfortable.

Hoping the action of my command will meet your approval, I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

H. A. McCALEB,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Second Mississippi Artillery.

Lieutenant Bozman,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Camp McPherson.

FEBRUARY 9, 1864.—Skirmish at Morgan's Mill, Spring River, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. John W. Stephens, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, commanding expedition.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, Ark., February 10, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that a scouting party of 100 men, consisting of 40 men First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry and 60 men Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens, while hunting a large band of guerrillas, ran into Colonel Freeman's regiment of 600 Confederate soldiers. Colonel Stephens had divided his forces, sending Captain Majors, of the First Nebraska, with 40 men of his regiment in one direction and he moving with the remainder toward the enemy. This imprudent act was committed under the impression that Freeman had only about 100 men, but the colonel was immediately surrounded and fiercely attacked by overwhelming numbers. He charged, running the gauntlet for nearly twenty minutes through their forces, losing 6 men killed and 8 wounded off their horses, together with 8 captured by reason of their horses being shot from under them. Colonel Stephens succeeded in cutting his way through them, and estimates the enemy's loss at 22 killed and many wounded.

In the mean time Captain Majors, hearing the skirmish, hastened to the scene, but before reaching Colonel Stephens was also surrounded and attacked. He charged the enemy, killing 6 and capturing 6 others with their arms, horses, and equipments, as he rushed through them without the loss of a single man or horse. The enemy's forces consisted of Colonel Coleman's, Colonel Love's, and Colonel Freeman's regiments. They were well armed and mounted; apparently had abundance of ammunition, as a running fight was kept up for a distance of 8 miles. The enemy are very numerous around me, and I am constantly at work among them. I am, however, hampered in my movements by being compelled to keep a sufficient force at this station to defend the stores we have on hand.

I ought to have another battalion of cavalry at the least, though I do not ask for more troops, as I feel amply able to whip the enemy should they molest me. If, however, I had more men I could scour the country and rid it of these pestiferous hybrids, who infest the swamps and mountains of this district.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel First Regt. Nebraska Cavalry, Comdg. Dist.

Lieut. Col. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*ADDENDA.**

February 2.—The steamer Mill Boy was wrecked about 9 miles above Jacksonport; forage and subsistence stores lost; the gun on board was saved. A detachment First Nebraska Cavalry, under Lieutenant Murphy, ordered to Devall's Bluff for another boat, but returned, as the streams were so swollen. Captain Dunscomb, Third Arkansas Cavalry, who left this point January 30 for Little Rock, returned; left this place on the 4th for Little Rock, taking the road on this side of the White River; all ferry-boats destroyed. General McRae in possession of the south side of the Red River.

February 4.—Lieutenant Moore, First Nebraska Cavalry, left Batesville with 53 men for Smithville, Evening Shade, and Hookram; returned February 9.

February 6.—A flag of truce arrived from Colonel Freeman, in charge of Captain Wolf, rendering up 4 men taken while on picket by Colonel Freeman's forces.

February 7.—Sixty men Eleventh Missouri Cavalry and 8 men Fourth Arkansas Mounted Infantry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Stephens, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, 40 men First Nebraska Cavalry, under command of Captain Majors, same regiment, on a scout toward Smithville; returned on the 10th.

February 9.—Steamer Dove arrived at this point. Left on the 11th with the mail up to the 10th instant, inclusive; also 98 prisoners. Four squadrons of First Nebraska Cavalry, detached to Jacksonport for the purpose of guarding commissary and quartermaster's stores since January 18, returned.

February 12.—Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer, with 350 men of the First Arkansas Cavalry, left Batesville to attack Freeman's command; returned February 20. Same day a flag of truce from Colonel Freeman arrived, in charge of Lieutenant Wasson, C. S. Army, rendering up Capt. P. B. Rouch, Company L, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, and 23 enlisted men Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

February 19.—A forage train of thirty-five wagons, escorted by 50 men of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry and 50 men of the Fourth Arkansas Mounted Infantry, under command of Captain Castle, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, was attacked about 12 miles from Batesville by a band under command of Captain Rutherford, C. S. Army. Captain Castle and 2 men killed, 2 wounded, 29 captured, besides a number of teamsters. Immediately upon having received information 400 men were sent out. Colonel Livingston took command, but the enemy had fled.

February 20.—A flag of truce from Captain Rutherford, in charge of Captain Monkin, First Arkansas Cavalry, C. S. Army, arrived. Same day another flag of truce, from Colonel Love, commanding scouts, C. S. Army, arrived in charge of Sergeant Cooper.

February 25.—A scout of 200 men Fourth Arkansas Mounted Infantry, in charge of Colonel Baxter, was sent out to recapture the mules, &c., captured by Captain Rutherford on the 19th instant.

February 27.—A detachment of 75 men of the First Nebraska Cavalry, under command of Captain Ribble, and 24 men Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, under command of Captain Kauffman, were sent out to re-enforce Colonel Baxter. Scout not returned yet.

* Itinerary from return of the District of Northeastern Arkansas, for February, 1864.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. John W. Stephens, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, commanding expedition.

HDQRS. DETACH. ELEVENTH CAV., MISSOURI VOLS.,
Batesville, Ark., February 10, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to a special order issued from the headquarters District of Northeastern Arkansas, dated February 7, 1864, I moved the same day with a detachment of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry and First Nebraska Cavalry, consisting of 4 officers and 64 men of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, and Capt. T. J. Majors and 40 men of the First Nebraska Cavalry, together with 8 men of the Fourth Arkansas Infantry, to attack the camp of Colonel Freeman, then supposed to be encamped on the Smithville road, about 25 miles from this point. On my arrival at the point designated, I found that the camp had broken up, and that Colonel Freeman had moved with his command northwardly. I then, upon consultation with Captain Majors, determined to follow him, and attack him wherever I might find him. In accordance with this determination I moved the command through Smithville to a point on Spring River, known as the Widow Marshall's, where I received the first definite information of the whereabouts of the enemy's forces, he having left that point the same day and moved up Spring River westwardly to a point known as Morgan's Mill, near the mouth of Martin's Creek. Finding that the men were fatigued, and that my horses were not in a condition to attack his camp that night, I halted the command and encamped.

Early the next morning, the command took up its line of march up both sides of Spring River, the detachment of the First Nebraska Cavalry, under Captain Majors, moving up the south side of the river to a point known as the farm of the Widow Crawford. With the remaining portion of the command, consisting of the Fourth Arkansas Infantry and Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, I moved cautiously up the north side of the river, crossing at Marshall's Ford, Captain Majors being ordered, in case of an attack either by me upon the enemy, or any attack by them upon me, to cross the river at the nearest point and effect a junction as rapidly as possible. About 7 miles from the point at which I started I encountered the enemy's pickets, and immediately drove them in. My information previous to this time had led me to believe that the enemy did not number over 200 effective men, but, as it was afterward ascertained, he had been re-enforced during the night by about 300 men under Lieutenant-Colonel Coleman and Colonel Love, making his entire effective force in the neighborhood of 450 men. As soon as I ascertained this fact I halted my command, consisting in all of 72 officers and men, and determined to attack the enemy previous to his forming his line of batttle. To accomplish this object I ordered the command to take position on a hill which fronted the creek, from which I expected the enemy to debouch; he, however, had anticipated my movements, and had already taken a position on a hill still higher up and immediately in my rear, his front occupying a narrow ridge on both sides of the Salem road, with his flanks extending down the sloping ravines on my right and left. Observing this disposition of the enemy, and during my temporary absence in another part of the field, Lieutenant Warrington, my acting adjutant, acting under pre-

viously expressed instructions from me, formed the battalion into column of fours by the right, and charged the front of the enemy. Under a heavy fire the column moved to a position in front of the line formed by the enemy, and opened fire with considerable effect. Part of the men were still in the rear, and efforts were made to bring them up. At this juncture I reached the scene of action and assumed command. For the space of ten minutes, under a terrific fire from the enemy's works, this little band of about 25 men, forming my advance, stood their ground, keeping the enemy at bay, and at one time breaking the center of their front line of battle. This advantage I was unable to improve for want of a force with which to charge the enemy, the men still in the rear not coming up as promptly as I had expected and ordered.

In the mean time my flanks were turned, and in order to prevent my being entirely surrounded I gave the order to retreat to a new position in a dense thicket on the opposite side of Martin's Creek. Overwhelmed by numbers, I was forced to abandon this position, and as rapidly as possible and the nature of the ground would permit I again retreated in the direction of Captain Majors' command, which I supposed, by this time, had reached the mill. In this I was prevented by the enemy, who appeared in force on the hill commanding the mill road. But one chance remained for me to escape from the overwhelming force with which I was contending, and that was to follow an old road, which led up the hills, and take possession of the ridge. I did so immediately, closely pursued by the enemy. Forming my men on the ridge I made a stand and opened fire. This held them in check, but I was again flanked and forced to retreat along the ridge to another point, which gave me a favorable position with which to retard their pursuit. In this manner, for nearly 8 miles, I kept up a running fight until the enemy ceased pursuing us, and gave my now exhausted men and horses a chance to recover their energies. Still retreating, I crossed the river at Walker's Ford, 12 miles west of the scene of action, unmolested by the enemy, and hearing nothing of Captain Majors, took up my line of march for Batesville, where I arrived without further loss.

For an account of the part taken by Captain Majors in this action I beg leave to respectfully refer to his report, but must state that but for the gallant charge made by him on the enemy, in their rear, and while I was fighting them on the hills, I must have inevitably been surrounded and my entire command captured.* By the truly gallant and efficient manner in which the task assigned him was performed, fearlessly charging a largely superior force of the enemy, who possessed every advantage of position, he demonstrated what has already been shown, that "courage and determination will overcome greatly superior numbers."

Captain Rouch, of the Eleventh Cavalry, who was, toward the last of the engagement, unfortunately taken prisoner by the enemy by reason of his horse being shot from under him, displayed great coolness, decision, and promptness in obeying all orders given by me. To Lieutenants Warrington and Harris great praise is due for the gallantry and determination displayed by them during the entire fight, always in the front, encouraging the men under their command, and by their personal efforts in retarding the pursuit and in

* Majors' report not found.

rallying and forming the men in line on each successive stand made by us, contributed largely to the safety of the remaining portion of my command.

My loss, I regret to state, is severe, nearly one-half of the portion of the command engaged in the action being killed, wounded, or missing. The following is the recapitulation, as near as could be ascertained from the sources of information left open to me after the fight: Killed, Private Dean, Company F, Eleventh Missouri Volunteer Cavalry; wounded, 4; missing, 23. Of these, 20 are from the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry and 3 from the Fourth Arkansas Infantry.

My thanks are due to the men under my command, with a few cowardly exceptions, for the courage displayed on this occasion.

I am unable to state the exact loss of the enemy, but am fully satisfied that it will amount to an aggregate of 65 killed, wounded, and missing, including the prisoners taken by Captain Majors.

In conclusion, I would respectfully recommend Lieut. John A. Warrington to the favorable consideration of the commanding officer of the district, in order that he may receive the promotion due him for his gallant services during this action.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. STEPHENS,

Lieut. Col. Eleventh Cav., Commanding Detachment.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Batesville, Ark.

FEBRUARY 11, 1864.—Descent upon Lamar, Tex.

Report of Capt. E. P. Upton, Local Defense Company of Refugio County.

HDQRS. LOCAL DEFENSE COMPANY OF REFUGIO CO.,
Lamar, February 13, 1864.

SIR: In my communication of the 11th instant, by special courier, I informed you of the landing of the enemy at this place in considerable force. Early on the morning of the 11th the enemy landed 75 men under 3 officers—a captain and 2 lieutenants (Iowa troops). They took down the large warehouse here, and removed all they could carry of it on board the large scow they brought with them. The men were then turned loose, as it seems, for indiscriminate plunder. They entered almost all the houses and took whatever they desired, defenseless families suffering the most. Just before dark the enemy hauled out into the bay and anchored. Early in the morning of the 12th, they returned toward the shore in their barges and boarded the schooner Lizzie Bacon, which lies sunk near the beach. They pumped her out, and after an ineffectual attempt to get her out they abandoned her, proceeded to their large scow, set sail, and at sundown of the 12th were out of sight. They stood toward the pass of Aransas. By design I directed J. B. Wells, esq., a member of my company and resident of Lamar, to enact the quiet citizen and meet the enemy upon their landing. He derived from the 3 officers before mentioned the following: They told him that all of Corpus Christi had come over to them; that

they had upon Mustang Island a Texas regiment enlisted in Corpus Christi and elsewhere on the coast, and that Banks had 25,000 troops with which he intended taking Galveston, but said that "our heaviest force, and the one upon which we mainly depend, is coming by way of Red River—a force so large that Texas will be overrun in less than three months hence."

During the invasion of the enemy on the 11th, a small boat was seen coming from Saint Mary's. To my astonishment she stood on and landed on the beach just above the enemy, when the 2 men in her leaped ashore and started to run across the prairie. They were pursued, fired at several times, and captured without injury. Mr. Wells informed me they were a lieutenant of Captain Hobby's company, Colonel Hobby's regiment, and one T. Beran, whom the lieutenant had employed at Saint Mary's to bring him to Lamar. The lieutenant is from Bee County; name unknown. My scouts from Saint Joseph's inform me as follows: Every building of any size on Saint Joseph's has been removed to Mustang, where a city seems to be rising. The fortifications are all on Mustang. The enemy only occasionally cross to Saint Joseph's in large parties to hunt cattle, &c., which have become very wild from constant shooting among them and want of water. Their communication with Saluria is now by water. On Mustang is now a large force of cavalry, &c. From Black Jack Reef, Saint Mary's, Carlos Head, and Nine-Mile Point (Live Oak) all is quiet.

Among the recent invaders were several citizens of Corpus Christi; one Anderson (captain) and his son were the most conspicuous. Certain it is that every movement here was well known to the enemy. I have determined in consequence to stop all communication with Corpus until ordered otherwise, as well as the islands.

* * * * * * *

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. P. UPTON,

Captain, Comdg. Local Defense Co., Refugio County.

Col. JAMES DUFF,

Comdg. Second Brig., First Div., Victoria, Tex.

FEBRUARY 11, 1864.—Skirmishes near Madisonville, La.

Report of Lieut. Henry P. Anderson, Third Maryland Cavalry.

MADISONVILLE, LA., *February* 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report for your observation:

On the morning of the 11th of February, at 3 a. m., a detachment of the Third Maryland Cavalry, consisting of Capt. Adolph Bery (the commanding officer), First Lieut. Henry P. Anderson, 4 sergeants, 3 corporals, and 23 privates, of Squadron C, and Lieutenant Moore, 20 men, and non-commissioned officers of Squadron D; also Dr. Stevenson, ambulance and driver, and a guide by the name of Bailey; all of which started for the point named in your instructions to the commanding officer. The command having reached the pickets on the Ponchatoula road, an advance guard was immediately sent out,

consisting of Lieutenant Moore and 12 men of Squadron D. We arrived at Mr. Fleming's farm, after traveling a distance of 20 miles, about 8.30 a. m., without molestation or difficulty. The property was immediately searched, but nothing was found creating suspicion excepting several camp or picket fires on and about the premises. One man, pretending to be a brother-in-law of Mrs. Fleming, was arrested and closely questioned. He denied all knowledge of the enemy being there, or of their whereabouts, which proved contradictory to the statement of Mrs. Fleming, who acknowledged the presence of rebel soldiers upon the farm. During the examination of the prisoner the report was brought by Corporal Henkel, of Squadron C, to Lieutenant Moore, that a rebel soldier was seen by him standing upon a fence on the edge of the woods about 200 yards distant, in an opposite direction from the house, endeavoring apparently to find out the strength of our force. Lieutenant Moore proceeded immediately with his advance guard to capture him, and if possible to discover the vicinity of others. At the same time Lieutenant Anderson, with a few men, by taking the road to the left, joined in the pursuit. Arriving at the river a junction was formed with Lieutenant Moore, after which, and unexpectedly, we were greeted by a volley of musketry from the other side of the river, Lieutenant Moore at the same time receiving a wound in his back near his right shoulder blade. The depth of the river, the want of crossing, and the impenetrability of the bushes prevented farther pursuit, or any means of discovering the strength or whereabouts of the enemy. We were therefore compelled to fall back on the reserve. A consultation was immediately held, Captain Bery deciding to cross the river by some means with his whole force (excepting 10 men who were left at the house of said Fleming, for the protection of Lieutenant Moore and Dr. Stevenson), pursue the enemy, and if possible overtake them. The guide, Mr. Bailey, advised Captain Bery to give up his plan of pursuit, on the ground that in all probability the enemy were lying in ambush with numbers superior to our own; that we would encounter an almost interminable swamp, and he (Captain Bery) would thereby only incur a needless slaughter and a disastrous defeat. In consequence thereof Captain Bery gave up his idea of pursuit, formed his column, and withdrew his force upon the road leading to Mr. Hennen's farm; Lieutenant Moore at the same time being properly cared for and placed in the ambulance, which was sent with a guard to the rear of the new advance sent out by Captain Bery.

Lieutenant Anderson at this time, with 15 men, formed the rear guard. After having proceeded about a quarter of a mile several shots were fired from a deserted house upon the roadside, after which Lieutenant Anderson deployed his rear guard as skirmishers in a half-circle, in order to cover the retreat of the main body. Suddenly and unexpectedly we were attacked by a flanking movement which left us but one way of escape. Several volleys, however, were given in return, both by the skirmishers and the main body. The next moment the enemy came down upon us in a full charge, yelling and whooping. From the best of my and my men's judgment, I should conclude their number to be from 70 to 100 men. In the mean time the horse of Captain Bery was shot from under him, which left him in the rear of his column, and consequently, left without a commander, the men became panic-stricken at seeing their commander down and in the hands of the enemy, which caused them to break

ranks, and especially so when they discovered the guide at the head of the advance in full retreat. They, as a matter of course, followed hard after. The skirmishers, seeing the main body in full retreat, and all efforts on their part to repel the enemy fruitless, became discouraged and were compelled to seek safety in retreat. All efforts upon my or my sergeants' part to rally the men were of no avail. I endeavored to form the men in line after a retreat of a couple of miles, but the guide objected upon the ground that a creek was running close by, the enemy in sight upon our left, and should we halt in all probability in a few moments we would be cut off and all means of escape futile. He stated that the only chance we had was in gaining the turnpike road, which we reached in safety. The doctor was forced to leave and abandon his ambulance and contents and seek refuge with the main body in retreat. The men, when spoken to of the manner in which they retreated, replied they would never stand with such a weapon as the carbine they now have. My sergeants state, of their own personal knowledge, two out of every three shots missed fire. They also state the men would only be throwing away their lives to no purpose whatever, and without benefit to any one.

Our loss consisted, in Squadron C, of 1 captain, 1 corporal, 1 private, besides 3 horses with equipments, 3 carbines, 2 sabers with accouterments, 2 saber blades, 1 pistol; in Squadron D, 1 lieutenant, 2 carbines, 1 saber blade, 1 horse with equipments. Wounded and missing: Squadron C—Capt. Adolph Bery, missing; Corpl. John C. Klinke, wounded and missing; Private Wilhelm Engel, wounded and missing; Squadron D—Lieutenant Moore, wounded and missing; Squadron G—Private B. K. Jones (driver), missing; also 1 ambulance, contents, and the 2 horses.

All of which is most respectfully submitted as the true result of the scout by you ordered.

Very respectfully, yours,

HENRY P. ANDERSON,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Company C.

Maj. BYRON KIRBY,
Commanding Third Maryland Cavalry.

FEBRUARY 12, 1864.—Affair near the California House, Mo.

Report of Maj. Waldemar Fischer, Fifth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

WAYNESVILLE, MO., *February* 12, 1864.

COLONEL: The stage going west was attacked this morning, 4 miles west of the California House, escorted by 9 men of the Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. One man of the Eighth Missouri State Militia was killed; bushwhackers, 20. I have sent as many men after them as I can spare. The Eighth, from the Gasconade, has likewise sent an escort behind the bushwhackers.

W. FISCHER,
Major, Commanding Post.

Lieutenant-Colonel EPPSTEIN,
Commanding District of Rolla.

FEBRUARY 12–20, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville, Ark., after Freeman's command.

Report of Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEBRASKA CAVALRY,
Batesville, Ark., February 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In accordance with verbal instructions received from Colonel Livingston, First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry, commanding district, I left Batesville at 7 a. m. on the 12th instant, in search of Colonel Freeman's command. Weather was clear and pleasant. Started in a northeasterly direction and traveled 6 miles and then halted to close up the column. At noon we crossed junction of Mount Olive and Hookram and Mount Olive and Batesville roads. Just before reaching this point met two flags of truce from Freeman's command, bringing in Captain Rouch and 18 privates of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, for exchange. At cross-roads deployed skirmishers in the hills, and halted for ten minutes to rest the animals; distance to this point, 12 miles. At 1.30 p. m. passed Curia Post-Office, taking Hookram road; distance, 15 miles. At 2 p. m. crossed road coming in from northeast; at 3 p. m. halted and fed at McCord's on the Hookram road, 20 miles from Batesville. Up to this point we passed no plantations that had either forage or beef-cattle. One mile from McCord's struck headwaters of Spring Creek and followed down its valley to Hookram. Passing through Hookram we turned in a westerly direction and pushed on to Widow Martin's, 2½ miles distant from Hookram. We camped here for the night and had corn and fodder for the animals. Mrs. Love (Widow Martin's daughter) has two head of beef-cattle (poor), which she is desirous of selling. Gave receipts for all forage used. One mile east of Widow Martin's crossed Salem road. Day's march, 28 miles.

February 13.—Left camp at 6 a. m.; weather cloudy, wind northwest. Traveled west three-fourths of a mile through a level bottom; crossed tributary of Strawberry, and proceeding one-fourth of a mile farther, crossed main Strawberry, and passed house of Widow Mosier; saw but little corn here, no fodder, 5 head very small cattle. Pushed forward and halted at crossing of Hookram and Batesville and Batesville and Salem roads to await junction of forces under command of Captains Majors and Potts. Command formed junction at 8.30 a. m. At 10 a. m. started on Salem road, having sent two squadrons for forage. After traveling one-fourth of a mile, crossed road running east and west and passed plantation of Mr. Jacks; no fodder, but little corn, and no cattle fit for use. One-half mile farther, same road, passed Hycomb's house; no forage or cattle. One-half mile farther passed Brown's and changed direction to northwest, taking road to Ash Flat, crossing at intervals of 1 mile each eight roads leading to the northeast. Pursued this route for 8 miles and crossed a small stream at Couch's house. No forage or cattle. One-fourth mile farther we came to Simpson's plantation, where we halted (it being noon), fed, and let the men get their dinners. Sent out parties in different directions to search for information of the enemy. One of the parties returned, bringing as a prisoner Captain Adams, a noted character. No definite information was obtained. Left Simpson's at 4.50 p. m., and started for Widow Davidson's, on the Yellville and Jackson road, distant 6 miles; arriving there we found that she had but 30 bushels of corn, and we

then took a northeasterly course for Phillips'. Whilst en route to Phillips' we captured a Mr. Smiley; he was riding a mule and had a McClellan saddle and bridle; he stated that he was going to Lunenburg to attend to some business before a Masonic lodge. Took him with us as a prisoner. Arrived at Phillips' at 7 p. m. and camped; plenty of forage for the animals. Rained during the night.

February 14.—Weather cloudy, with a little rain; left camp at 6 a. m. and traveled in a northeasterly direction for 2 miles, when we crossed a spring branch and passed the house of a Mr. Wolf, who has a cotton-gin and press. There was no forage at this place and the land did not seem to have been cultivated during the past year. Pushing on 1 mile farther on the same course we passed Hall's plantation. He had no forage, but we saw 5 head of work-cattle. One-half mile farther we came to Smith's farm. There was a large amount of land cleared, but little of it had been cultivated, and they had only corn enough for bread for the family. There was no beef-cattle on the place. Took Smith along with us. Pushed on 4½ miles farther over a good road, and then turned to the eastward; passed Wright's house, in which we caught 2 of Freeman's men. No forage or cattle. Pursued this course for 1 mile, and then changed direction to the northwest. Struck South Fork of Spring River; followed up the valley for 1 mile, and crossed a creek at Smith's Mill, where we halted for a few moments. Captured 1 of Freeman's men at the house. No forage here, but we saw about 20 head of young cattle, poor. At 10.20 moved on down South Fork, passing five plantations with not enough forage on either of them for a single feed for the animals of the command. At the last house saw 7 head of small beef-cattle. Halted at noon at Taylor's for five minutes. No forage there, but got 2 prisoners. Pushed on to Smith's, 9 miles southeast of Salem, where we fed. Whilst the animals were feeding, sent out a scouting party of 12 men, who returned with 2 prisoners, said to belong to Freeman's command. At 1.30 p. m. moved off in a northwesterly direction, and halted for five minutes at Captain Bryant's farm. Found it completely cleaned out, and then took the direct road for Salem, where we arrived at 6 p. m. and halted. Sent the quartermaster with an escort to look for forage. At 6.30 moved in a southwest direction to Morris', distant 2½ miles, where we camped for the night. Got but little forage at this place. During the night it rained quite hard.

February 15.—Weather cloudy, with light fall of rain. Command separated this morning and moved at daylight. Captain Majors, with three squadrons, moved in a westerly direction, with orders to continue on that course for 9 miles, and then, passing through Lunenburg, join the main command at Jennings' farm, 6 miles from Hookram. The remaining portion of the command, comprising seven squadrons, moved in a southerly direction, and, after traveling 2 miles, came to Strawberry Creek, and passing down the valley of that stream for 6 miles, halted at Martin's. At this point we remained two hours. Just as we came in sight of the house 3 men darted out and made for the woods; several of the men gave chase, but did not succeed in overtaking them. Fed at this place and sent two squadrons in different directions in search of beef-cattle, with instructions to rejoin the command at Livingston's farm, 2 miles below our present camp. Leaving Martin's, we pushed on down Strawberry Creek, passing the plantation of Mr. Roberts. No cattle or forage. Moved on to Livingston's, where we found one of the

beef details awaiting our arrival; they reported finding neither cattle nor forage. Pushed on to Smith's, one-half mile below, and waited forty minutes for arrival of second beef detail, which came in, making the same unfavorable report. They saw and chased 3 mounted men, but did not succeed in overtaking them. The forage detail, which had been sent out under charge of Quartermaster Lowry, also returned and reported having killed 2 bushwhackers, Martin and son, but found no forage. They fired and burned a crib of corn at Martin's, as we could not carry it away. From information gathered we knew that this corn had been hidden for the use of a gang that made Martin's their headquarters. Pushing on half a mile farther, we passed Smith's farm; large clearing, but little cultivated; some little fodder in a field, but no corn. Passed cross-roads and continued on a southerly course 2 miles farther, and came to another cross-roads. Sent one squadron in chase of a party of mounted men, whose fresh trail was seen leading to the eastward, and during their absence, forty minutes, patrolled the roads in three directions. Squadron returned; met with no success. Started again in an easterly direction, and after traveling 2 miles crossed the Batesville and Salem road; one-half mile further crossed Strawberry Creek and moved on to Gault's plantation, one-half mile from the creek, where we camped; distance traveled, 21 miles. Found plenty of forage for the animals. Sent off scouting parties in different directions during the night to gather information concerning the enemy and learn whereabouts of forage.

February 16.—Left camp at 7 a. m., and traveled in a northeasterly direction for one-half a mile; crossed Strawberry and continued on the same course until we arrived at Salem and Batesville road. Moved down Batesville and Salem road 1 mile and then struck off to the westward; proceeded 1 mile on this course and halted and fed at McIlmurray's; remained there two hours and divided the command, sending the prisoners and led horses to Batesville, under escort of detachments of Squadrons A and C of the First Nebraska Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenants Griffin and Whitelock. The command [marched] in a southeast direction 10 miles; passed through Wild Haws and halted for the night at 5 p. m. on the farm of a Mr. Phelps; found plenty of corn and fodder for the horses.

February 17.—Left camp at 7 a. m., and marched in an easterly direction; crossed the Salem and Batesville road, and at 8 a. m. halted to feed at Mr. Haliburton's, 5 miles distant from our previous camp. Command separated at this place; one detachment, composed of Squadrons E, F, and K, under command of Captain Majors, moved on a road leading north around Hookram. Squadrons G and I, under command of Captain Weatherwax, [moved] on a road south with instructions to join the command at West's plantation, 6 miles northeast of Hookram. The main command took the direct road to Hookram, passed through and camped at West's at 3.30. Captain Majors arrived at 4 p. m. and Captain Weatherwax at 4.30 p. m. Captain Weatherwax reported having ran upon a squad of jayhawkers, numbering 6, who were in the act of plundering the house of a citizen, killed 3 and brought in 3 as prisoners. At dusk Squadrons K and F, in charge of Captain Lawler and Lieutenant Murphy, was sent from this place 10 miles northeast to Ash Flat and Richwoods; they returned at 2 a. m. next morning, bringing in 2 prisoners belonging to Freeman's command. Squadron H, Lieutenant Moore,

was sent at 6 p. m. 6 miles in an easterly direction, and returned at midnight. At 9 p. m. Squadrons A and C returned from Batesville, bringing instructions from district headquarters directing me to move on to Pocahontas.

February 18.—In accordance with said instructions, I moved at 9 a. m. in the direction of Smithville, marched 2 miles and struck Strawberry Creek, which we followed down 4 miles. Halted at 12 m. at a Mr. Randle's farm to feed; captured here W. J. Sanders, a rebel captain of Shaver's regiment. Remained here one hour and resumed the march; passed through Smithville; captured there Second Lieut. Alfred Phillips, Company D, Freeman's regiment. At 5.30 p. m. halted to feed at Joseph McCarroll's, 4 miles northeast of Smithville. Remained here until 10 p. m., when I moved on in a northeast direction 13 miles and halted one hour to rest near the farm of Mr. Lemons.

February 19.—Resumed the march at 5 a. m. toward Pocahontas, crossing Spring River and Eleven Points River; at the latter crossing lost 1 man belonging to Company G by drowning. A scout was here sent out, who came up with the command 4 miles from where I had halted and reported having ran into a camp supposed to number about 40. They were fired upon and were compelled to retreat to the command. One private of Company C was wounded by a shot in the foot. I immediately proceeded with the Second Battalion to their camp and found it deserted. No trace of the course they had taken could be found. I then returned and proceeded with the command to Pocahontas, where we arrived at 10 a. m. Found but 2 or 3 rebels in the place, and those escaped as we entered. A ferry-boat load was crossing the river. Our advance fired upon the boat, wounding 1 man. The party in the boat gained the shore and sought protection behind trees and logs. On the opposite shore and a short distance farther down the stream a company of rebels were posted also behind trees and logs. A brisk fire of a few minutes was kept up between them and our advance. A number of horses were tied on the bank within range. They succeeded in getting all away except 4; these my men shot. Finding there was no enemy on this side of the river, that there was no way of crossing, and no forage to be had, I deemed it impracticable to pursue them farther, and at 2 p. m. started on the return. I could not hear of the whereabouts of Porter's command, and from all information I could gather do not believe there has ever been any such a force in that neighborhood. We pushed on 14 miles, and at 6 o'clock p. m. halted to feed the animals. At this place met your messenger ordering me to return to Batesville. Remained here until 7.30 p. m., then moved on 21 miles, and at 2 a. m., February 20, halted at Johnson's plantation; remained here until 4.30 a. m., when I resumed the march. At 8 a. m. halted to feed; remained 2 hours, and proceeded to Batesville, where we arrived at 3.30 p. m. Found forage and beef-cattle very scarce between Pocahontas and this place. In accordance with orders from district headquarters 2 of the jayhawkers captured on the 18th instant were shot on the 19th. One Barker, a jayhawker, also was shot in trying to escape.

The total loss on the part of the enemy was, killed, 8; wounded, 1; captured, 31. Three took the oath of allegiance and were released. Four horses killed and about 50 were brought in with the command. Arms and equipments taken were destroyed. Loss on part of our forces during the expedition was, drowned, 1; wounded, 1; horses, 12

disabled and were killed or abandoned. The distance traveled by the main column was 240 miles, distance traveled by detachments from 80 to 100 miles farther.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BAUMER,

Lieut. Col. First Nebraska Cav., Comdg. Expedition.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Northeastern Arkansas.

FEBRUARY 13–14, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up the Saint Francis River, Ark.

Report of Capt. Charles O'Connell, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY G, FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Helena, Ark., February 15, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of a scout up Saint Francis River, February 14, 1864:

I left Helena, Ark., at 5 p. m., February 13, 1864, in command of 100 men Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, and 30 men Third Arkansas, African Descent. Proceeded up Saint Francis River on steamer Hamilton Bell; arrived at Shrimp's Landing at 10 p. m.; disembarked cavalry, and ordered the boat, under command of Captain ———, to cross to an island and remain until daylight February 14; then proceed to Linden, on Saint Francis River, and await my arrival. I took road leading to the hills; pressed guides. The night was very dark and rainy. Arrived at the house of Major Dawson; searched for the major, but did not succeed in finding him. I then divided the command; sent Captain Wier with his company with orders to go around by the house of Major Dawson's father-in-law (object, to catch the major). I proceeded to John McDaniel's; there awaited the arrival of Captain Wier and company. He arrived at 6 a. m.; had captured Captain Nall in arms away from his home before daylight; fed horses at McDaniel's, then proceeded on road to Madison; arrived there at 11 a. m. Sent Captain Wier with Company C on one road into Madison, while I with the rest of the command went in on another road, in order to prevent persons from leaving town. We captured 1 soldier. I sent for all male citizens to report at the court-house. I learned from Dr. Pillow that Captain Stewart and 4 men were in town awaiting my arrival to be captured. I brought them to Helena to obtain their parole.

I was in Dr. Pillow's house conversing with him when I heard firing on picket-post. Immediately sent orders to Captain Wier to have his company mount and re-enforce the picket. I mounted my horse and started for the picket-post; saw 2 rebels running through the woods and pickets firing at them. I changed my course and proceeded on right-hand road leading toward railroad, with view of heading them off until Captain Wier with his company could arrive. When opposite them I ordered them to halt. One of them fired at me. I fired at the one in advance, while the rear one changed his course and went toward the railroad. I pursued the advancing one, and after passing the rear one, he turned and followed me, continuing to fire at me, I firing at the advancing one. At that time some of the men had come upon the right flank of the rear man. He

turned and ran over the railroad to the left, pursued by the men. I followed the advancing one until he halted and surrendered, entreating me not to shoot again, as he was already wounded. I remained in charge of him until my orderly arrived; then sent him with prisoner to town. I then proceeded to the left over the railroad in pursuit of the other man. Saw his horse go by without a rider. Skirmished the woods to find him, as some of the men reported he had fallen from his horse; did not succeed in finding him. Returned to town with command, and discovered that I had captured Colonel Josey, Fifteenth Arkansas Infantry, wounded in the right arm. I learned from him that he and his adjutant had crossed the Saint Francis River opposite Madison and run into my pickets, not knowing they were there. On coming to the picket he asked what command he belonged to. Picket told him the Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry. The colonel answered, "I will have to take you in, then;" to which the boy objected, ordering them to surrender. They attempted to draw their revolvers, and the boy fired at them. One then shot at the boy, wounding him in the left breast, upon which the other pickets came up and commenced firing. The rebels then retreated, trying to escape. I could not procure medical aid for the wounded men; pressed a wagon and had them conveyed to the boat at Linden.

The rebels having received information that I was in the country I deemed it unnecessary to go into their camp; therefore returned to the boat, and immediately started for Helena to procure medical attendance for the wounded. I arrived at Helena at 1 a. m., February 15; distance traveled, 135 miles. I succeeded in capturing 1 colonel, 2 captains, 2 lieutenants, and 5 privates; 5 horses, 3 revolvers, 1 carbine, and 3 guns destroyed.

Name and rank of prisoners: Col. John E. Josey, Fifteenth Arkansas Infantry Regiment; Capt. William Stewart, Greer's battalion (who remained in Madison to be captured); Capt. R. C. Nall, Company F, Dobbin's regiment, was captured in arms away from home before day; First Lieut. William Kelim, Harrison's [Griswold's] battery, Pratt's battalion; First Lieut. Philander Littell, General Walker's staff; Private F. A. Weatherby, Company F, Dobbin's regiment; Private R. F. Hunt, Company A, Dobbin's regiment (who remained in Madison to be captured); Private J. L. Burnett, Company A, Dobbin's regiment (who remained to be captured); Private Porter Littell (conscripted by Captain Martin); Private William Cole, Groves' company, Biffle's regiment (a notorious guerrilla).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. O'CONNELL,
Capt. Company G, 15th Illinois Cav., Comdg. Scout.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FEBRUARY 15, 1864.—Affair near Charleston, Mo.

Report of Capt. James A. Ewing, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CHARLESTON, MO., *February* 17, 1864.

COLONEL: On the evening of the 15th I learned there was some guerrillas lurking about the country west or southwest of town. I

sent out a detachment of 20 men with 2 guides, and ordered them to take two different roads, hoping that one or the other would come upon them. Corporal Philliber with 10 men surrounded the house where two of the scoundrels lived, named Vernon. Having searched the house several times before unsuccessfully they did not much expect to find them; 5 of them got to the house a little before the others and were fired upon by 4 guerrillas from the house, and E. C. Edwards was killed and Henry P. Bronson mortally wounded (since died). The rebels then dashed out and took the brush close by, and a desperate fight of some minutes took place, and the rebels were repulsed until my men took care of the dead and wounded; they thought 1 or 2 of the rebels were killed, but the brush was so thick they could not tell certain. One of my men came in for help, and I sent Lieutenant Calvert with 15 men and 4 or 5 armed citizens immediately to their rescue. When he arrived there it was dark. Edwards and Bronson were put in a wagon and brought into town. The remainder then went to watch for the scoundrels, when they were fired upon from an ambush, and Corpl. Thomas M. Philliber and a citizen named Hughes severely wounded, and perhaps will die. They were put in a wagon and the whole party came back, not knowing how much injury was inflicted upon the enemy, it being impossible to do anything with them in the brush. I then started yesterday morning with 20 men and a few citizens and gave the country a thorough scouring, brush and all. I found 4 horses tied in the thick brush back of Vernon's house, 2 of them saddled ready to mount. I felt sure I would find them there, but did not. I burned the house and all the buildings on the place, and to-day have the rebel citizens (their connection) hauling in a lot of corn there was on the place.

The wife of one of the scoundrels told my men when they first rode up that there was no one in the house, which I suppose caused them to be more careless than they would have been. I have ordered her to leave the country; if it was not for the name of the thing, I would shoot her sure, for she murdered those men.

I intend to burn every house that I find harbors them, but I think they sleep mostly in the woods. We found a hat all covered with blood near where we found the horses. There are not a great many of these scoundrels here, but they are desperate fellows, and will fight to the death.

Thus three of the best and bravest men in my company are sacrificed by the hands of thieving scoundrels, who will not come out and fight openly. I will avenge their death.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. EWING,
Captain, Commanding.

P. S.—The mail starts out in the morning, the first opportunity I have had to report. Henry P. Bronson's fine mare and J. Van Osdol's grey mare got loose in the fracas, and I think have gone to the Cape; if so, please let me know, as he requested his mare sent home.

J. A. EWING.

LATER.—Boys' horses have come in. I would like to have a few copies of blank oaths of allegiance, as some of the old coons down here have never taken it.

J. A. E.

FEBRUARY 18, 1864.—Affair near headwaters of the Piney, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *February* 22, 1864.

Lieutenant Chitwood, commanding detachment in pursuit of mail robbers, reports that he came upon the camp of the guerrillas near the headwaters of the Piney, and killed 4 of the party and wounded 1, and secured several of the articles taken from the stage passengers. Captain Human's command at Yellville has had several affairs with bushwhackers, in which 9 bushwhackers have been killed. Colonel Freeman's command is on White River, below Jacksonport. Major Gunning is on Calf Creek, in Searcy County, with 75 men, and Major Fitch, First Arkansas Cavalry, pursuing him, and within one-half hour's ride of him. Colonel Love's command is scattered in the northern part of Fulton County and some in Missouri.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major O. D. GREENE.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. EIGHTH CAV., MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Lebanon, Mo., February 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that Lieut. W. T. Chitwood, detailed, by order of Capt. John T. Wilson, to pursue the band of thieves which robbed the stage on the 11th instant, has returned and reports that he followed the trail of the robbers to the headwaters of the Piney. On the route he overtook 2 of the band, fired upon them, killed both of them and 1 horse; the horse killed was taken from the stage. Near the head of the North Fork of Piney he found the camp of the robbers, about 10 in number, killed 2 men, wounded 1. He reports 2 horses captured, 2 killed. Some harness or parts of the harness taken from the stage found in possession of the men killed. One of the horses captured belongs to a man in this county who was robbed some time this winter by the guerrillas near the Piney.

I have the honor, general, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. GRAVELY,
Colonel Eighth Cav., Missouri State Militia.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District Southwest Missouri.

FEBRUARY 19, 1864.—Capture of wagon train at Waugh's Farm, near Batesville, Ark.

Report of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, February 21, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: There are about 2,000 of the enemy hovering around me, in bands of from 100 to 400 strong each. They are very active and harass my foraging trains constantly. On the 19th instant 35 wagons, escorted by 100 men, were surprised only 12 miles from here and all captured, together with 32 of this command captured, 10 wounded, and 4 killed.

Captain Castle, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, in charge of escort, paid the penalty of his neglect with his life. The whole affair was most disgraceful to our arms, as the enemy was just about our own strength and not as well armed or equipped.

We cannot move, no matter how cautious or secret we endeavor to be, without the inhabitants betraying us. The principal messengers are women, just such bitter enemies as Mrs. Neeby and her eldest daughter, who have been caught *in flagrante delicto.*

I have driven Freeman across Black River and over Village Creek to the east, but he has moved to the south and will prove very annoying in the swamps east of Black River. My force is small, and I cannot spare the necessary number of men to garrison Jacksonport, because my escorts and working parties with forage trains, having to go 40 and 50 miles for corn, necessarily require to be large, leaving but a small force for the defense of the stores at this point. If the major-general commanding could spare me some troops so as to occupy Jacksonport it would facilitate our operations here very materially.

The enemy can readily throw in 700 men at Jacksonport, so that for the ordinary purposes of foraging, picket, fatigue, and usual amount of detached service, aside from all scouting parties and forces left to defend the place, you can readily see that not less than a regiment would be necessary at that point. When I was sent here it was understood that Jacksonport was occupied, and that it would be held.

I transmit herewith copies of instructions and order assigning me to this command, together with list of staff officers doing duty with me. Be pleased to notify me whether there shall be a change or if I shall retain these officers, and whether I am in command of a post or a district.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel First Regt. Nebraska Cav., Comdg. District.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of Arkansas, Little Rock.

FEBRUARY 20–26, 1864.—Expedition from Helena up White River, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Eagleton Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, commanding expedition.
No. 2.—Capt. Ezra King, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Eagleton Carmichael, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, commanding expedition.

HELENA, ARK., *February* 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: On the 20th, after leaving orders with the officers who were to act in conjunction with me, I embarked on the Cheek and left Helena at 5 p. m. I arrived at the mouth of White River at 2 o'clock. I had the stock taken ashore there and fed. Re-embarked and started up White at daylight, 21st instant, arriving at the Bay Landing at 8 p. m. We then disembarked and went into camp. I sent out 20 men under Lieutenant Fisher for the purpose of visiting some houses where there was likely to be some soldiers. They returned without learning or effecting anything. We marched at daylight on the 22d, passed Murrell's, taking a westerly direction up the bay as far as the Widow Jackson's. I learned that a company of rebels camped near Captain Mayo's. On arriving there I found there was no enemy in the country in arms.

From thence I went to Pointer's, and from thence to Palmerton's. Found a blacksmith shop out in the woods and destroyed it. I then proceeded to Colonel Boyce's; dividing the force, sending them on different roads with orders to meet me at Boyce's. I there captured J. A. McMannis, alias Anderson Palmerton, private, Davis' company; had 1 horse and saddle; no arms. I ordered Colonel Boyce to report to headquarters at Helena. I brought from there 1 mule to mount one of my lieutenants whose horse had become lame. I then went to Widow Mayo's, learning that I could get some information there, but on arriving I learned nothing of importance. I then proceeded to Dr. Hendricks'. I there found a wounded soldier belonging to the One hundred and twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, borrowed a mule of the doctor to mount him, and proceeded to Mr. Lightfoot's, and camped for the night. After leaving Boyce's captured Lieut. B. F. Thomason, Davis' company; had a horse and saddle, 2 horse-pistols. William A. Ward, private, Davis' company, had a horse and saddle. Henry F. Cook, private, Davis' company, had nothing.

Left Lightfoot's at sunrise on the 23d, dividing the command, and proceeded by different roads to Buck's Point; from thence by Higginbotham's, striking the lower Little Rock road at Brown's. I captured Higginbotham at his house. He is a private of Casteel's company; had a horse, saddle, and carbine; also captured J. A. Brewer, private Company I, Twenty-fourth Texas Infantry, and Joseph E. Terry, private Company K, Twenty-fourth Texas Infantry. They had nothing. From Brown's I sent a detachment to the Rogers and Bonner Settlement. They captured J. H. Rogers, private, Davis' company. They brought in 3 mules belonging to a rebel, one Willis Macon. I proceeded thence to Simms' plantation in the Skafe Settlement, fed there, and thence by Humphrey's to Trenton. I then detached Lieutenant Chase with 20 men and the prison-

ers to go to Helena, with orders for Captain King to join me with his command at Colonel Taylor's. I then proceeded to that point, and camped for the night. About 11 o'clock I heard a volley fired in a northeasterly direction from my camp. I ordered the command to mount and form, but hearing no more firing I supposed the detachment, which was ordered to be on the road from Wallace's Ferry to Thomas' Mill, were in ambush, and had fired at some straggling rebel who had undertaken to run the gauntlet. I ordered my men into quarters again. About 3 a. m. the command under Captain King joined me, and reported that the post under Lieutenant Campbell had been surprised, and that the enemy was out of reach for the night.

At daylight on the 24th, we marched in the direction of the Thomas' Mill post, that we might strike the trail of the rebels. I found that they had left in different directions, in order that their trail might not be easily discovered. I, however, found it, and followed them about 25 miles, crossing Big Creek at the mouth of Spring Creek. I then struck the Spring Creek road, and followed on until I ascertained that they were marching very fast, and that we were not gaining on them. I then concluded it was useless to pursue farther unless I had had rations to have kept up the pursuit for several days. I returned by the way of the Paradise road to Dr. Lander's, where I camped for the night, forage being scarce there.

I marched at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 25th, and returned to Helena, by the way of La Grange, without feeding or breakfasting, being without rations. On the 24th, I captured Roach, private of Anderson's company; had a horse and saddle and old shotgun, which I destroyed. I arrested Thomason, citizen, who was reported to me as being always ready to carry information whenever our scouts are out; very disloyal.

The guard sent in from Trenton with prisoners, under command of Lieutenant Chase, captured M. M. Casteel, private, Casteel's company. Had a horse, saddle, and broken shotgun, which is abandoned. Captain Wier turned over to Lieutenant Chase Maj. C. H. Carlton, Fifteenth Arkansas Infantry, and Capt. C. L. Moore, same regiment, each having horse and saddle. Captain King turned over Richard Brown, private, Company E. Fifth Mississippi Cavalry; he had a horse and saddle. The horses and saddles are all turned over to post quartermaster.

Owing to a number of the men being dismounted at the post that was surprised, I was obliged to press horses and mules for them to ride in. I would therefore respectfully request that I may be allowed to return all those to loyal owners.

The accompanying reports* of Captains King and Wier will show what was done under their immediate commands. I take great pleasure in saying that Captain Wier rendered important service during the expedition.

On the post that was surprised there was a gross neglect of duty, and as soon as I can find out who is to blame I will report in writing.

The foregoing report is very respectfully submitted.

E. CARMICHAEL,
Major, Commanding Expedition.

Capt. T. C. MEATYARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Wier's report not found.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Ezra King, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY H, FIFTEENTH ILLINOIS CAVALRY,
Helena, Ark., February 26, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with instructions I received from you I marched from camp at 8 a. m. on the 21st of February to Simms' farm; there encamped for the night. On the morning of the 22d I crossed Big Creek after a tedious time, being delayed by the boat having been destroyed previously. I then marched to Wallace's Ferry by the way of Trenton. In coming in sight of Trenton discovered some of the enemy; gave chase and had 1 man thrown from his horse and hurt severely, which caused another delay, which caused me to be behind time on arriving at the ferry. I found Captain Wier and the pickets I was so anxious [about] gone. I sent Lieutenant Campbell and 15 men upon the Thomas' Mill road.

On the 23d instant Captain Wier came in from where he had been. I then sent 10 men and a sergeant to re-enforce Lieutenant Campbell, with orders, if there should be danger apprehended, to all fall back to the ferry. About 9.30 p. m. on the 23d, I received orders from you for me to join you at Colonel Taylor's either that night or in the morning; also for me to turn over my prisoners with guard to Lieutenant Chase. About 11 o'clock that night heard firing in the direction where Lieutenant Campbell was posted. I immediately ordered the command mounted and marched to Thomas' Mill; crossing there, learned that the post had been surprised and most of the horses and arms captured. I lost from my company 4 men prisoners, with 1 lieutenant; had 1 private wounded, who is now in camp; also 1 enlisted man from Company L, prisoner, and 2 wounded. I lost, captured by the enemy, 11 Government horses and 6 private horses from my company, and 7 Government horses from detachment of Company L, with all the horse equipments and most of the arms.

Learning that the enemy had left with so much the start that I could not reach them that night, owing to the difficulty of following the trail, I proceeded to Colonel Taylor's, arriving there at 3 a. m. the 24th instant, and reported to you.

Respectfully submitted.

EZRA KING,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

Major CARMICHAEL.

FEBRUARY 22, 1864.—Affair near Indianola, Tex.

Report of Maj. Gen. Napoleon J. T. Dana, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES IN TEXAS,
Matagorda Bay, February 23, 1864.

SIR: Brigadier-General Warren, commanding at Indianola, reports that 25 mounted infantrymen, who were scouting and driving cattle 8 miles from his post yesterday, were surrounded and charged upon by well-armed and well-mounted cavalry of the enemy, 55

strong. The horses of our men were poor scrubs and not trained to fire, and when the men fired a volley at the distance of 50 yards, 14 of them were unhorsed. The enemy immediately closed on them with revolvers, and the 14 were captured, the other 11 escaping. General Warren reports that the affair reflects no credit on the officer in command, and I have notified him that I expect an investigation.

Very respectfully,

N. J. T. DANA,
Major-General.

Capt. A. B. SHARPE,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 13th Corps, New Orleans.

FEBRUARY 22-24, 1864.—Operations about Warrensburg, Mo.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., February 23, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 22d instant, at 8 a. m., a small squad of guerrillas was attacked by Lieutenant Hamilton, Company D, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, under the command of Col. James McFerran, in which Lieutenant Hamilton was severely but not dangerously wounded; one of the guerrillas was wounded. The enemy's force was part of the notorious Captain Blunt's band, that numbered about 20 men and were driven out of the brush on the Blackwater, about 12 miles northwest of this post. It is the same band that has been reported as being in Jackson County the past four months.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF CENTRAL MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, Mo., February 24, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that a scout of 19 men, under command of Captain Burris, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry, waylaid a small party of guerrillas, part of Blunt's band, that I reported on the 23d, and mortally wounded 2 of them; the balance escaped into the Sni Hills.

I am, truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

FEBRUARY 23–MARCH 9, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., into Northern Arkansas, and skirmishes near Buffalo City (March 1) and at Bennett's Bayou (March 2).

Report of Capt. Eli Hughes, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding expedition.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *March* 9, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to submit the following official report: In accordance with Special Orders, No. 50, issued from district headquarters Southwest Missouri, on February 23, 1864, I left Springfield, Mo., in charge of 111 men, with orders to proceed south into Arkansas. On the 25th of February, 1864, I crossed White River, reaching Yellville on the 26th. In conformity to an order received prior to my departure from Springfield, Mo., I dispatched 30 men to escort refugees desiring to emigrate to Springfield, Mo. Traversing the country situate between Sugar Loaf Prairie and Yellville, Ark., I encountered a band of guerrillas, killed 2 men, who, as I subsequently ascertained, belonged to Major Gunning's command.

I took up line of march from Yellville on the morning of the 28th, halting 30 miles from Yellville and 6 miles below Buffalo City, in vicinity of which I remained three days, scouring the country on both sides of the river. March 1, I sent detachment, Lieutenant Overman, Company H, Sixth Missouri State Militia, in command, with orders to proceed down river on opposite side, to which my operations were confined. I now had only 40 men left remaining with me. About 10 o'clock on morning of 1st, while near or not far from Buffalo City, I encountered a band of guerrillas, killed Lieut. J. B. Smith, Eighth Missouri Infantry, of C. S. Army, and a man named Charles Cain, known as a desperado, and regarded with terror by all loyal citizens. Meanwhile Lieutenant Overman was contending with a band of Tracy's men, not far distant, and succeeded in killing 2 of the band and capturing 3. One of the men killed was of the name of Heron; the other, a Baptist preacher, whose name I do not know. On morning of March 2, I left White River, 8 miles above Calico Rock, crossed mountain to Bennett's Bayou, on North Fork White River, where I came in contact with about 50 guerrillas with Tracy at their head. They had there murdered a Union man named Anderson and a negro. On my approach Tracy dispersed his men among the hills and fired upon my command from behind rocks and trees, but without effect.

On the morning of March 3, deployed small detachments of skirmishers, thoroughly scoured Bennett's Bayou, killed Frank Russell, a notorious guerrilla from Wright County, Mo., and a man of the name of Howard, from Fulton County, Ark.; also captured one of Freeman's gang. Thence proceeded through Texas and Wright Counties, Mo., to Springfield, where I turned over to district provost-marshal Southwest Missouri all the property captured during scout, and which consisted of 16 horses and a number of fire-arms, such as shotguns, rifles, &c. I found forage in abundance during whole of scout.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI HUGHES,

Captain Company K, Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN.

FEBRUARY 24–29, 1864.—Scout from Camp Mimbres, N. Mex.

*Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Department of New Mexico for February, 1864.**

February 24.—The commanding officer and 21 infantry at Camp Mimbres left that post on a scout.

February 27.—Had a fight with the Indians.

February 29.—Returned; none of the party injured; killed 13 Indians, including the chief of the Mangas tribe; captured from the Indians a Mexican woman who had been in captivity fifteen years.

FEBRUARY 27, 1864.—Affair near Poplar Bluff, Mo.

Report of Capt. Abijah Johns, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PATTERSON, *February* 28, 1864.

COLONEL: My scout in from below Poplar Bluff. Captured and burned rebel train, destroying a great many shotguns and rifles and corn. Killed 2 jayhawkers; had 1 man slightly wounded in finger.

JOHNS,
Captain.

Col. RICHARD G. WOODSON,
Pilot Knob, Mo.

FEBRUARY 29–MARCH 13, 1864.—Expedition from Rolla, Mo., to Batesville, Ark.

Report of Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH CAVALRY, MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Camp Steele, March 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the colonel commanding the district, that, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 40, headquarters Department of the Missouri, I ordered Squadrons A and M to proceed from Saint Louis to Rolla on the morning of the 15th ultimo, per Pacific Railroad, where I and my staff joined them on the 17th, and was joined on the 18th by Squadrons B, C, E, and G, commanded by Maj. L. W. Brown, which had for some time been serving in District of Southwest Missouri. As this detachment was in need of many supplies, both of ordnance and camp and garrison equipage, I deemed it advisable to remain there a few days till the necessary supplies could be obtained. Meanwhile I turned the occasion to account by putting my command in a more efficient state of discipline and drill, and by sending a quantity of forage to Houston. On the afternoon of the 29th ultimo I ordered tents struck and moved 5 miles south of Rolla, and camped on Little Beaver. On March 1, I moved 13 miles and camped by the side of a fine spring. Roads were bad and teams heavily loaded. On the morn-

*See also p. 122.

ing of the 2d, moved out early; weather fine, and some little improvement on the roads and country; no forage could be obtained; camped at Thomas Reid's, close to a fine spring, having marched 16 miles. On the 3d, reached Arthur's Creek, marching 16 miles; no forage on the route; country very broken, barren, and destitute. Remained here one day to enable my quartermaster to repack his wagons, rest his teams, and turn in a quantity of tents which my limited transportation would not allow of bringing. Moved early on the morning of the 5th; reached Elk River at 2.30 p. m. and camped, marching 20 miles; good water; no forage could be found. 6th.—Marched 28 miles to-day; camped on Black Pond, in Howell County; country still very hilly and broken; no forage. 7th.—Marched 16 miles to-day and camped in West Plains, county seat of Howell County; good water and plenty of fuel, but no forage could be found in the country. 8th.—Moved 30 miles to-day and camped at South Fork of Spring River, Fulton County, Ark.; roads better; country less broken and hilly, but presenting an unbroken field of desolation and ruin; houses and fences burned up and inhabitants fled the country; no forage or articles of subsistence could be obtained. 9th.—Marched 18 miles to-day. The rain of the afternoon rendered the roads very heavy, and trains were slow in getting up; camped on South Fork of Spring River. As yet no reliable intelligence had been received of the presence of the enemy in the vicinity of my route, though I kept out flankers on each side and scoured the country well for several miles; obtained a small quantity of forage. 10th.—Moved 8 miles to-day, and camped close to Stephens' farm, in Izard County; here I obtained about 200 bushels of corn, a small quantity of sheaf oats and fodder. In the morning, learning of the existence of a gang of bushwhackers, I sent Lieutenant Thomas with 20 men of Company E, with instructions, if found, to either kill or capture them. Coming up with a small squad of them, he fired upon them and gave them chase, in the end killing 2, wounding 1, and capturing a fourth; 1 of those killed was a negro desperado known as Wildwood Jack. 11th.—Marched 8 miles to-day; sent out scouting and foraging parties, and thoroughly scoured the country on each side of the road a distance of 5 or 6 miles, but without any particular beneficial results; obtained but little forage and no definite information as to the whereabouts of the enemy. 12th.—Marched 15 miles to-day, keeping on the Wild Haws road; sent foraging parties out on either side; secured enough for present necessities, though found no considerable quantities. My camp was now within 7 miles of Batesville. Plenty of water. 13th.—Arrived in Batesville at 11.30 a. m.

May I add in conclusion that the whole of this march, a distance of over 200 miles, was effected without a material loss, and that, too, having forage to transport more than three-fourths the distance. I adhered strictly to the policy of allowing citizens a fair remuneration for any article of forage or subsistence taken on the route, and those of doubtful loyalty to report here and satisfy the authorities before settlement would be rendered.

In conclusion, permit me to acknowledge the earnest and hearty co-operation of both the officers and men of my command in aiding me to carry out all orders and instructions; all, from the highest to the lowest, did their duty as soldiers should.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[WM. D. WOOD,]
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

MARCH 1–4, 1864.—Operations on the Ouachita River, La., including actions at Trinity and Harrisonburg.*

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Camille J. Polignac, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.
No. 2.—Capt. Thomas A. Faries, Pelican (Louisiana) Battery.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Camille J. Polignac, C. S. Army, commanding brigade.

HEADQUARTERS POLIGNAC'S BRIGADE,
Harrisonburg, La., March 3, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following facts: On the 1st instant one iron-clad boat and five other boats (semi-gun-boats and semi-transports), part of which belong to the Mosquito Fleet, made their appearance off Beard's Point, on Black River, where my lower picket is located, and reached Trinity at 4.30 p. m. Having received intelligence of their approach, I notified Captain Devoe, of the engineer department, left at Trinity by Major Douglas, chief engineer, in time for him to secrete the 32-pounders that had been taken to Trinity by the direction of the latter officer, and which could not be used, as only one was mounted and there was no ammunition for them. Capt. W. H. Gillespie, with 50 cavalry, engaged the enemy on the west bank of the Black River all the way up to Trinity, the enemy responding with a brisk artillery fire. The six boats stopped in front of Trinity and shelled the place and its neighborhood. I had disposed my infantry force along the north bank of Little River to protect as best I could the pontoon bridge, and also in order to detain the enemy, if possible, long enough for the captain of the Ruby (now engaged in getting lumber on Little River for the engineer corps) to be notified of their approach by a courier previously sent by me. The boats, however, did not come up Little River, and Lieut. O. Gaudet, in command of the only section of artillery that I had, opened upon them with two 12-pounder howitzers, which, of course, were unable to check their progress. This officer behaved very well. His section was within 300 yards of the iron-clad boat, and stood the unequal contest with a great deal of coolness.

As soon as the gun-boats had run past Trinity, and thus made apparent their intention of attacking Harrisonburg, I moved my infantry and artillery back to that place that same night, as I had to ferry the Bushly Bayou, a navigable stream, where the enemy could easily head me off. It had rained on the day previous and the road had become almost impassable. Two caissons had to be left behind. I have since [had them] pulled out and brought to camp. I ordered the cavalry to remain at Trinity. Capt. John G. Randle, by some unaccountable mistake, took his cavalry up Little River, so that the duty of guarding the town devolved upon Captain Gillespie alone.

* The United States vessels engaged were the Conestoga, Cricket, Fort Hindman, Lexington, Osage, and Ouachita. See report of Lieut. Commander Frank S. Ramsay, U. S. Navy, Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

This young officer behaved throughout with coolness, energy, and judgment, and I take great pleasure in commending him to the officers above me.

On the 2d instant, at 10 a. m., the same boats hove in sight of Harrisonburg. I had placed two infantry regiments on the bank of the Ouachita River, from the mouth of the Bushly Bayou up to the vicinity of the town, and one section of artillery (6-pounder Parrott guns), under Captain Faries, at a place where it could do the most effective firing. The other section of the same battery could not participate in the fight for want of its caissons, and also because the horses were so badly used up by the night's march and the bad roads as to be altogether unfit for service. The enemy's boats were opened upon by our infantry and artillery at the same time. From the nature of their build the iron-clad was safe against my artillery, and the wooden boats were protected from the musketry by a plate of sheet-iron between two thicknesses of wood on their sides. Having ascertained that there were no guns on the front they moved slowly up, firing as they went as well on the troops on the bank of the river as at the town, in which several houses were riddled with shot, regardless of the lives of the women and children. One of the boats, apparently somewhat damaged by the fire of the artillery, dropped back below the mouth of the Bushly, and the balance went up the Ouachita. They returned about one hour afterward and threw some incendiary matter into a house in town immediately on the bank of the river, which caused that house and the neighboring ones to ignite instantly.

Fortunately I was able, with considerable exertion, to stop the conflagration, which had liked to have swept over the whole place. After this the boats ran down the river and lay all night 1 mile above Trinity. This morning they are shelling Trinity. I have not yet heard the particulars, and will forward as soon as possible another report. The enemy fired not less than 1,000 rounds, out of 24 and 32 pounders and 12-pounder Parrott guns and guns of smaller caliber, a great deal of grape, canister, and spherical case, and some 8 and 11 inch shells.

The troops, as a general rule, behaved well. Colonel Taylor and Lieutenant-Colonel Stone, in command of the infantry, led their regiments in a manner creditable to themselves. The fire from the boats was very heavy on the banks of the river. Both my aides (Capt. S. Cuculler and Lieut. W. Eggeling), whose coolness I feel my duty to report, lost their horses killed while they were in the discharge of their duty. The casualties are 3 killed and 13 wounded, 3 of which mortally.

The enemy had troops on board of their boats firing through loopholes. As they kept themselves constantly hid their number could not be ascertained. One of their boats was a very large one, which could carry 800 men, but it is believed that their force was not as large. The above is all I have to report. I regret that I did not achieve more, but, with the means at my disposal, to fight was about all that I could do.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. POLIGNAC,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. L. BUSH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS POLIGNAC'S BRIGADE,
Harrisonburg, La., March 4, 1864.

MAJOR: One gun-boat is reported aground at the mouth of Little River. The other five are just below the mouth of that river. Captain Randle, commanding the cavalry, did not report to me punctually, and I was only notified this morning, and I am moving two regiments back to Trinity. The road is almost impassable. I cannot move any artillery over it. My troops are very much worn out and deficient in rations. I will do my best.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. POLIGNAC,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. L. BUSH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

If I was provided with some incendiary matter I might try to burn their fleet. The distance between Trinity and Harrisonburg and the miserable condition of the road makes it a very heavy duty on me to oppose the enemy at both places.

C. J. P.

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HEADQUARTERS POLIGNAC'S BRIGADE,
Harrisonburg, March 4, 1864.

SIR: Yesterday morning the gun-boat fleet made their appearance for the second time at Trinity. One of the boats ran up Little River and destroyed the pontoon bridge. Capt. John G. Randle, who was then at Trinity in command of the cavalry, did not even attempt to prevent it. I have the regret to report that I was very badly assisted by this officer, who, unfortunately, was the senior officer, and whom I had naturally placed in command. He did not notify me of the movement of the enemy, and it was only indirectly that I heard this morning that a gun-boat was aground, as I had the honor to inform you. This fact occurred in the following way: The gun-boat No. 13 was badly crippled by the fire of my artillery on the 2d instant, and had to be towed down to Trinity. As she lay off Little River the current caught her, and in swinging to she ran aground. This took place about noon yesterday. The water had fallen considerably, and the two 32-pounders which had been rolled into the water at the mouth of Little River were partly visible above the surface, as I am informed by Captain Gillespie, who was in town with a cavalry picket. The enemy took them out and put them on board of one of the boats. During the night they dug up another of [the] guns which had been buried on the mound on which the fort was building, with the greater facility, as by burning the bridge they had interrupted communication between both banks of Little River. They also succeeded in pulling the damaged gun-boat from off the sand, and this morning at daybreak they left Trinity. My infantry consequently came too late to be of any service.

It is with feelings of deep regret that I have to report the loss of the guns, but as I am conscious to have done as much as I could under the circumstances, I would respectfully remind, through you, the brigadier-general commanding that these guns were withdrawn from my charge by superior order; that they were taken to Trinity

without my advice, and that I was so circumstanced as to be without authority to oppose such removal. Furthermore, I would refer the general to my late correspondence with district headquarters, which will show that I had plainly foreseen and adverted to the danger of the situation. The enemy are said to have buried 15 dead on the bank of the Ouachita River. Such parts of the wooden boats as were not iron-plated were riddled with shot.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. POLIGNAC,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. L. BUSH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT WEST LOUISIANA,
No. —. } *In the Field, April* 5, 1864.

The major-general commanding desires to express to Brigadier-General Polignac and the officers and men of his brigade his high appreciation of the gallant and soldierly bearing in their engagement of the 1st and 2d of March, 1864, with the enemy's gun-boats on the Ouachita River. The dispositions made by General Polignac were excellent and were nobly sustained by his command. The gun-boats were successfully engaged at short range with musketry and light artillery, and driven off with heavy loss, by the enemy's own admission. The artillery engaged consisted of two sections of Faries' battery, under Captain Faries, whose conduct is highly praised in General Polignac's report. Our men were entirely without cover.

By command of Major-General Taylor:

E. SURGET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Thomas A. Faries, Pelican (Louisiana) Battery.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR HARRISONBURG, LA.,
March 2, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I took position with the right section of this battery (two 3-inch rifled guns), at daylight this morning, on a large circular Indian mound in an old field about midway between Harrisonburg and Bayou Bushly, which enters the Ouachita River on its right bank about 800 yards below the mound. This mound is 200 yards from the right bank of the river. At 10 a. m. the iron-clad gun-boat Osage of the enemy turned the point at the junction of the Ouachita and Bayou Bushly, followed by four tin-clads, armed stern-wheel river steamers, protected by a covering of boiler iron, pierced for guns below and for musketry where it covered the cabins, which were occupied by Federal infantry. I commenced firing at 10.30 a. m., soon after our infantry on the open river bank below me had opened the fight. Forty-seven time-fused shell and 16 solid shot were fired at the four tin-clads where they had halted just below my position, distance 400 yards. Nearly all of the shot and shell from the two 3-inch rifles took effect in the pilot-houses

and upper works of the four tin-clads, all of which lay together in a mass. The damage by my fire was, I believe, considerable, as I could perceive the effect of the greater part of my shot. After exhausting the ammunition in the limber chests, I retired the section by piece until they had reached the cover of the woods to the left and rear. The Indian mound is some 10 feet in height. A curved ditch was cut through the level surface near the river face of the circle, which was occupied from daylight until the action was well opened by the two companies of infantry under Captain ———, who had reported to me at 2 o'clock in the morning.

While in position on the mound the tin-clads did not attempt to pass above. Only the iron-clad Osage passed up, she being so low in the water (the river being very low) no part of her hull was visible from the mound, her funnel alone indicating her movements. The ground being unfavorable for the protection of my caissons and horses, I had them placed in charge of Sergeant-Major Arnauld, some distance in my rear on the Bushly Ferry road, from which position they had to be retired, as most of the projectiles from the enemy's guns passed over my position and exploded at or near the caissons.

The enemy's vessels were armed with 6, 8, and 11 inch guns, 30-pounder Parrott rifles; also 12 and 24 pounder guns, from which were thrown during the day an immense quantity of shot, shell, spherical case, and grape, their explosive projectiles bursting with considerable accuracy toward the latter part of the firing. In a direct fire they were unable to depress their guns sufficiently to do me any damage while occupying the mound. My horses and pieces sustained no injury, the only exception being the animal ridden by myself, which was killed while I was in the act of reporting to General Polignac for orders near the bank of the river above the mound. I have no casualties to report

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,
Captain, Comdg. Battery, Second Division Infantry.

Maj. O. VOORHIES,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brig., Louisiana Infty.

—

IN THE FIELD, NEAR HARRISONBURG, LA.,
March 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the left section of this battery (two 12-pounder field howitzers, Lieut. O. Gaudet commanding), stationed at Trinity, La., 12 miles below Harrisonburg, on the right bank of the Ouachita River, near the mouth of Little River, opened on the iron-clad gun-boat of the enemy called the Osage on the afternoon of March 1, instant, at 5.30 p. m., from the road or street leading into the town on the open bank of the river, firing at 100 yards distance. Fired five shell without fuse as solid shot, striking the vessel, but glancing upward from her iron casing without effecting any injury or retarding her progress. The gun-boat replied from heavy rifled guns in her tower, firing shell and grape, but firing over the section, which sustained no injury in guns, men, or horses. The Osage was followed by four tin-clad gun-boats, protected by a covering of boiler iron. These, however, remained below Trinity out

of range, until the iron-clad had passed the front of the town, when one of the tin-clads entered the mouth of the Little River on his right flank, and opened on the right and rear of the howitzer section with grape and shell, compelling Lieutenant Gaudet to retire. At the same time he saw clearly that he could not delay the iron-clad Osage, she having reached his immediate front, and was firing at or over him from about 50 yards in a very exposed position. Lieutenant Gaudet, not having been notified in time of the approach of the gun-boats, was unable to reach the position that had been previously selected for his guns, which was lower down the river. This section retired, as ordered, on the Harrisonburg road, marching all night over a road that had become nearly impassable by the rains for artillery and other carriages. To enable him to bring the pieces to this place by doubling his teams, the two caissons were left on the road 6 miles in the rear. They have since been brought in with mule teams. Lieutenant Gaudet reports the loss of some of the cartridges from his caissons, two axes, and one tarpaulin stolen the night he was engaged in moving his two guns to Harrisonburg. No casualties to report.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,
Captain, Comdg. Battery, Second Division Infantry.

Maj. J. C. MONCURE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brig., Louisiana Infty.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR HARRISONBURG, LA.,
March 5, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to state that Lieut. O. Gaudet, commanding the howitzer section of this battery, recently detached with the infantry sent to Trinity, has reported to me that on the night march from that place he was ordered by Colonel Speight, of the [Fifteenth] Regiment Texas Infantry, who commanded the rear guard, to abandon his two caissons in order to save his pieces, the caissons being left 6 miles below this place on the road to Trinity without a guard to protect this valuable property; also, that when he arrived at the ferry on Bushly Bayou, just below Harrisonburg, he was not allowed to cross his pieces, horses, or men until all of the infantry and their wagons, including the rear guard of infantry, had been ferried over.

I beg leave most respectfully to protest against this very unusual and irregular proceeding, which I believe was done without your knowledge or consent. As a rule, under such circumstances artillery is crossed early and placed in position on the opposite bank to cover the crossing of troops and trains. This, sir, is written in no spirit of fault-finding, but only to call attention to a very unusual and unmilitary occurrence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

Brig. Gen. C. J. POLIGNAC,
Commanding Second Brigade Infantry.

MARCH 3, 1864.—Skirmishes at Jackson and near Baton Rouge, La.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Second Brigade, Cavalry Division, Department of the Gulf, for the month of March, 1864.

On the 3d, a small force went to Jackson; had a skirmish at that place; killed 1 rebel and took 1 prisoner, In the afternoon the same party encountered a superior force, and in charging them lost 3 men prisoners. On the same day Lieutenant-Colonel Logan went to Baton Rouge; had a skirmish; killed 1 rebel and lost 3 men prisoners.

MARCH 10–12, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to Wild Haws, Strawberry Creek, &c., Ark.

Report of Capt. Edward Lawler, First Nebraska Cavalry.

BATESVILLE, ARK., *March* 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of an expedition made under orders dated March 10, 1864:

I left Batesville at 11.30 a. m., and proceeded northwest on the Wild Haws road. Meeting no enemy, I encamped for the night 1 mile south of Wild Haws. The same evening I sent a detachment of 40 men, under command of Captain Potts, to Wild Haws; he returned, reporting no enemy in the vicinity. Next morning had reveille sounded at 3.30, and marched at daylight as ordered. I proceeded northeast, passing through Wild Haws and from there to Franklin Post-Office, and there, hearing that the enemy with 100 men encamped on Strawberry Creek the night before, I at once pushed on to attack him, arriving at the place reported, and found no enemy, but traces of where his horses had been fed. I made frequent inquiries, and from all I could ascertain he went east of Franklin Post-Office the day before. After scouting the country for some miles in the vicinity, and hearing of Colonel Wood, of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, being in the neighborhood of Wild Haws, and not finding any enemy, I proceeded to join him as directed. En route, hearing of some 20 of the enemy between Colonel Wood and my detachment, I thought it policy to encamp for the night, in the hope that if the enemy were in Colonel Wood's rear I might pick them up early in the morning. March 12, 1864, reveille 3.30 a. m.; joined Colonel Wood about 9 o'clock a. m. He not thinking it necessary for me to remain, I pushed on toward White River, as directed. Not finding the enemy in any considerable numbers, I proceeded toward Batesville, where I arrived at 9 o'clock p. m.

Captain, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

EDWD. LAWLER,
Captain, First Nebraska Cavalry.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Northeastern Arkansas.

MARCH 10-MAY 22, 1864.—The Red River (Louisiana) Campaign.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Mar. 10, 1864.—Detachment from the Army of the Tennessee, under command of Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, embark at Vicksburg.
12, 1864.—The Union land and naval forces, under command of Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Smith and Rear-Admiral David D. Porter, enter Red River.
14, 1864.—Capture of Fort De Russy.
14-26, 1864.—Advance of the Union forces from Franklin to Alexandria.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Marksville Prairie.
U. S. Naval forces arrive at Alexandria.
16, 1864.—Union forces occupy Alexandria.
19, 1864.—Skirmish at Black Bayou.
20, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Rapides.
21, 1864.—Affair at Henderson's Hill.
23, 1864.—Steele's column advances from Little Rock, Ark.*
26, 1864.—Skirmish at Campti.
28, 1864.—Banks' column advances from Alexandria.
29-30, 1864.—Skirmishes about Monett's Ferry and Cloutierville.
31, 1864.—Skirmish at Natchitoches.
Apr. 2, 1864.—Skirmish at Crump's Hill.
3, 1864.—Skirmish at Grand Ecore.
4, 1864.—Skirmish at Campti.
5, 1864.—Skirmish at Natchitoches.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Wilson's Plantation, near Pleasant Hill.
8, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou De Paul (Carroll's Mill), near Pleasant Hill.
Engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads, or battle of Mansfield or Pleasant Grove.
9, 1864.—Engagement at Pleasant Hill.
10-11, 1864.—Union forces retreat to Grand Ecore.
12-13, 1864.—Engagement at Blair's (or Pleasant Hill) Landing.
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Saline.
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Grand Ecore.
20-21, 1864.—Skirmishes about Natchitoches.
21, 1864.—Affair at Tunica Bend.
21-25, 1864.—Banks' column retires from Grand Ecore to Alexandria.
22, 1864.—Attack on transports in Red River.
22-24, 1864.—Skirmishes at and near Cloutierville.
23, 1864.—Engagement at Monett's Ferry, or Cane River Crossing.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Cotile Landing.
26, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Rapides Bridge, near McNutt's Hill.
Engagement at Deloach's Bluff and destruction of the Eastport.
26-27, 1864.—Engagement at junction of the Cane and Red Rivers.
26-May 13, 1864.—Skirmishes about Alexandria.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Grand Ecore.
May 1, 1864.—Capture of the U. S. transport Emma at David's Ferry, Red River.
1- 4, 1864.—Skirmishes at Governor Moore's Plantation.
2, 1864.—Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, supersedes Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin in command of the Nineteenth Army Corps.
Skirmish at Wells' Plantation.
Skirmish at Wilson's Landing.

*See the Camden Expedition, March 23-May 3, *post*.

May 2- 3, 1864.—Skirmishes at Bayou Pierre.
3, 1864.—Capture of the U. S. transport City Belle.
4- 5, 1864.—Engagement at David's Ferry, destruction of the U. S. steamer Covington, and capture of the U. S. steamers Signal and Warner.
5, 1864.—Engagement at Dunn's Bayou.
Skirmish at Graham's Plantation.
Skirmish at Natchitoches.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at Boyce's Plantation.
Skirmish at Wells' Plantation.
6- 7, 1864.—Skirmishes at Bayou Lamourie.
7, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Boeuf.
8, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Robert.
12, 1864.—Skirmish at Bayou Lamourie.
13, 1864.—Union fleet passes the falls at Alexandria, and Banks' column in retreat to the Mississippi River.
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Wilson's Landing.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Avoyelles, or Marksville, Prairie.
16, 1864.—Engagement at Mansura (Belle Prairie, or Smith's Plantation).
17, 1864.—Action near Moreauville.
Skirmish at Yellow Bayou.
18, 1864.—Engagement at Yellow Bayou (Bayou De Glaize, Norwood's Plantation, or Old Oaks).
19, 1864.—The Union forces cross the Atchafalaya.
21-22, 1864.—The detachment from Army of the Tennessee re-embarks for Vicksburg, Miss.

REPORTS, ETC.*

No. 1.—Abstract from returns, and rosters of the U. S. troops composing the Red River Expedition, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, U. S. Army, commanding, for March 31 and April 30, 1864.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, U. S. Army, commanding expedition and Department of the Gulf.
No. 3.—Lieut. Col. John G. Chandler, U. S. Army, Acting Chief Quartermaster.
No. 4.—Capt. Frank W. Marston, U. S. Signal Corps, Chief Signal Officer.
No. 5.—Col. George D. Robinson, Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, commanding Engineer Brigade.
No. 6.—Lieut. Col. Uri B. Pearsall, Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Troops.
No. 7.—Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin, U. S. Army, commanding the Nineteenth and detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6-25.
No. 8.—Brig. Gen. Thomas E. G. Ransom, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6-8.
No. 9.—Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division and detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6-23.
No. 10.—Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations May 1-22.
No. 11.—Itinerary of the Artillery Brigade, Thirteenth Army Corps, for months of March, April, and May.
No. 12.—Lieut. Henry Roe, Chicago (Illinois) Mercantile Battery, of operations March 15-April 8.
No. 13.—Lieut. Charles M. Callahan, Battery A, First Missouri Light Artillery, of operations March 16-April 10.

*For naval reports, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

No. 14.—Itinerary of the First Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, April 18–May 22.

No. 15.—Maj. Bradford Hancock, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6–8, and itinerary of the brigade, March 5–May 22.

No. 16.—Col. William H. Raynor, Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations April 6–8.

No. 17.—Maj. Edward Wright, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 18.—Capt. Thomas Dillon, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 19.—Capt. Maschil Manring, Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 20.—Col. William J. Landram, Nineteenth Kentucky Infantry, commanding Fourth Division, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 21.—Itinerary of the Fourth Division, April 1–May 25.

No. 22.—Maj. John A. Burdett, Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry, First Brigade, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 23.—Maj. Francis A. Sears, Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 24.—Capt. William T. Cummins, Nineteenth Kentucky Infantry, of operations April 6–11.

No. 25.—Maj. Joseph E. Greene, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 26.—Capt. Daniel De Camp, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois Infantry, Second Brigade, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 27.—Capt. James R. Lynch, Forty-eighth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 28.—Lieut. Col. William H. Baldwin, Eighty-third Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 29.—Capt. Joseph Leonard, Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 30.—Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding detachments of Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps.

No. 31.—Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of Sixteenth Army Corps.

No. 32.—Col. Lucius F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill, with itinerary of the brigade, March 1–May 24.

No. 33.—Maj. John C. Becht, Fifth Minnesota Infantry.

No. 34.—Col. Sylvester G. Hill, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of affair at Henderson's Hill and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou, with itinerary of the brigade, March 4–May 24.

No. 35.—Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, of affair at Henderson's Hill and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 36.—Lieut. Col. William H. Heath, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, of affair at Henderson's Hill.

No. 37.—Maj. George W. Van Beek, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, of engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

No. 38.—Col. William F. Lynch, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagement at Pleasant Hill, with itinerary of the brigade, March 1–May 20.

No. 39.—Col. Thomas J. Kinney, One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry, commanding regiment and First Brigade, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

No. 40.—Maj. Thomas Newlan, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 41.—Lieut. Col. Hervey Craven, Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Bayou Lamourie and engagement at Yellow Bayou.

No. 42.—Col. William T. Shaw, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou, with itinerary of the brigade, March 10–May 24.

No. 43.—Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Newbold, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy.

No. 44.—Capt. Warren C. Jones, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 45.—Capt. Leroy A. Crane, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

No. 46.—Col. James I. Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

No. 47.—Col. John Scott, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 48.—Maj. Gustavus A. Eberhart, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

No. 49.—Maj. Robert W. Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

No. 50.—Capt. James M. Cockefair, Third Indiana Battery.

No. 51.—Lieut. Thomas J. Ginn, Third Indiana Battery, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

No. 52.—Col. Risdon M. Moore, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 53.—Maj. Thomas W. Morgan, Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 54.—Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 55.—Col. Edward Wehler, One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 56.—Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith, U. S. Army, commanding Provisional Division, Seventeenth Army Corps.

No. 57.—Lieut. John H. Tiemeyer, Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery, of operations March 26–April 13.

No. 58.—Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers, Eighty-first Illinois Infantry, Second Brigade, of operations April 7–13.

No. 59.—Col. Thomas W. Humphrey, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, of operations March 16–April 15.

No. 60.—Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, commanding First Division and Nineteenth Army Corps.

No. 61.—Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, Acting Engineer Officer Nineteenth Army Corps.

No. 62.—Capt. Henry W. Closson, First U. S. Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Nineteenth Army Corps, of engagement at Monett's Ferry, with itinerary of the Artillery Reserve, March 15–May 20.

No. 63.—Capt. Benjamin Nields, First Delaware Battery.

No. 64.—Capt. William S. Hinkle, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, of engagement at Blair's Landing.

No. 65.—Lieut. Franck E. Taylor, Battery L, First U. S. Artillery.

No. 66.—Lieut. Edward L. Appleton, Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 67.– Capt. George T. Hebard, First Vermont Battery.

No. 68.—Brig. Gen. James W. McMillan, U. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade and First Division, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, and Monett's Ferry, with itinerary of division, April 1–30.

No. 69.—Brig. Gen. William Dwight, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

No. 70.—Itinerary of the First Brigade, May 1–22.

No. 71.—Col. Edwin P. Davis, One hundred and fifty-third New York Infantry, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

No. 72.—Itinerary of the Second Brigade, March 15–May 22.

No. 73.—Itinerary of the Third Brigade, March 15–May 22.

No. 74.—Col. Francis Fessenden, Thirtieth Maine Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

No. 75.—Lieut. Col. Justus W. Blanchard, One hundred and sixty-second New York Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations April 21–25.

No. 76.—Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Hubbard, Thirtieth Maine Infantry.

No. 77.—Brig. Gen. Frank S. Nickerson, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, of engagement at David's Ferry, with itinerary of the brigade, April 15–May 22.

No. 78.—Col. William H. Dickey, Eighty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade, First Division, Corps d'Afrique, of action near Moreauville.

No. 79.—Lieut. Col. John C. Chadwick, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, of action near Moreauville.

No. 80.—Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Department of the Gulf, March 10–May 26.

No. 81.—Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations April 4–13.

No. 82.—Brig. Gen. Richard Arnold, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of engagement at Monett's Ferry and skirmish (May 2) at Wilson's Landing.

No. 83.—Capt. Ormand F. Nims, Second Massachusetts Battery, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 84.—Col. Thomas J. Lucas, Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, commanding First Cavalry Brigade, of affair at Henderson's Hill.

No. 85.—Capt. Francis H. Whittier, Thirtieth Massachusetts Infantry, Acting Assistant Quartermaster, Fourth Cavalry Brigade, of wagons lost at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 86.—Capt. Elbert H. Fordham, Thirty-first Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, of operations May 14–18.

No. 87.—Col. Oliver P. Gooding, Thirty-first Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Fifth Cavalry Brigade, of skirmish at Campti and engagement at Monett's Ferry.

No. 88.—Capt. William Davis, Eighteenth New York Cavalry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

No. 89.—Maj. George R. Davis, Third Rhode Island Cavalry, of skirmish at Campti and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

No. 90.—Lieut. Col. Charles H. Parkhurst, Third Rhode Island Cavalry, of voyage from New Orleans to Alexandria.

No. 91.—Lieut. Commander K. Randolph Breese, U. S. Navy, of the capture of the steamer City Belle.

No. 92.—Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army, of the capture of steamers on Red River, &c.

No. 93.—General E. Kirby Smith, C. S. Army, commanding Trans-Mississippi Department, including operations February 21–June 30.

No. 94.—Narrative of Lieut. Edward Cunningham, C. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp and Chief of Artillery.
No. 95.—Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor, C. S. Army, commanding District of West Louisiana.
No. 96.—Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations March 12–19.
No. 97.—Brig. Gen. Mosby M. Parsons, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.
No. 98.—Brig. Gen. James C. Tappan, C. S. Army, commanding Churchill's division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.
No. 99.—Brig. Gen. Hamilton P. Bee, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.
No. 100.—Col. George W. Baylor, Second Arizona Cavalry, commanding Major's cavalry brigade, of operations April 7–18.
No. 101.—Brig. Gen. William Steele, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations April 22–May 18.
No. 102.—Lieut. Col. Samuel J. Ward, Jeffers' Missouri Cavalry, of skirmish at Campti.
No. 103.—Maj. Thomas A. Faries, C. S. Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division, of engagements at Mansura and Yellow Bayou.
No. 104.—Capt. Thomas O. Benton, Louisiana Artillery, of engagement at Deloach's Bluff.
No. 105.—Brig. Gen. St. John R. Liddell, C. S. Army, commanding Sub-district of North Louisiana, of operations January 26–May 22.
No. 106.—Confederate Roll of Honor.

No. 1.

Abstract from returns, and rosters of the U. S. troops composing the Red River Expedition, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, U. S. Army, commanding, for March 31 *and April* 30, 1864.

RETURN FOR MARCH 31.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General headquarters:					
Staff and escort	20	47	106	160	.....
Engineer troops	40	681	872	807	.....
Total	60	728	978	967	.....
Thirteenth Army Corps:					
Third Division	94	2,020	2,275	4,413	8
Fourth Division	132	2,527	2,990	5,971	10
Total Thirteenth Army Corps	226	4,547	5,265	10,384	18
Nineteenth Army Corps:					
Headquarters	10	.....	10	12	.....
First Division	294	6,193	7,134	9,733	14
Second Division *a*	146	3,700	4,477	5,950	18
Artillery Reserve	6	270	280	373	14
Total Nineteenth Army Corps	456	10,163	11,901	16,068	46
Corps d'Afrique *b*	88	1,447	1,745	2,034	.....
Cavalry Division	205	4,448	5,333	8,996	12

a Headquarters and the Second and Third Brigades and batteries.
b First Brigade, First Division.

Abstract from returns, and rosters of the U. S. troops, &c.—Continued.

RETURN FOR MARCH 31—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
Army of the Tennessee (detachment):					
Headquarters	4	.....	4	4	.....
First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps	103	1,899	2,431	4,351	.....
Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps	237	4,971	6,151	7,732	10
Provisional Division, Seventeenth Army Corps	73	1,648	2,039	3,838	4
Total Army of the Tennessee	417	8,518	10,625	15,925	14
Grand total Red River expedition	1,452	29,851	35,847	54,374	90

RETURN FOR APRIL 30.

General headquarters:					
Staff and escort	20	45	122	171	.....
Engineer troops	38	657	811	990	.....
Total	58	702	933	1,161	.....
Thirteenth Army Corps:					
Headquarters *a*	15	19	35	43	.....
Second Brigade, First Division *a*	112	2,069	2,383	4,903	.....
Third Division	104	2,045	2,333	4,172	.....
Fourth Division	75	1,421	1,784	4,584	.....
Artillery Brigade	9	352	396	520	18
Total Thirteenth Army Corps	315	5,906	6,931	14,222	18
Nineteenth Army Corps:					
Headquarters	8	.....	8	11	.....
First Division	235	5,272	6,392	9,148	14
Second Division *b*	167	4,119	4,907	6,372	14
Artillery Reserve	7	248	295	373	14
Total Nineteenth Army Corps	417	9,639	11,602	15,904	42
Corps d'Afrique *c*	88	1,447	1,745	2,034	.....
Cavalry Division *d*	253	5,003	6,210	10,462	6
Army of the Tennessee (detachment):					
Headquarters	3	.....	3	4	.....
First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps	181	3,221	4,101	6,587	.....
Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps	191	4,393	5,464	7,498	10
Provisional Division, Seventeenth Army Corps	78	1,607	2,052	3,818	4
Total Army of the Tennessee	453	9,221	11,620	17,907	14
Grand total Red River expedition	1,584	31,918	39,041	61,690	80

a Transferred from Texas to Alexandria, April 18–26.
b The First Brigade transferred from Carrollton to Alexandria, April 15–18.
c As reported March 31.
d Return reports loss of ten pieces of artillery at Sabine Cross-Roads. Battery F, First U. S. Artillery (four guns), gained from Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps. The Second Brigade at Port Hudson.

ROSTER FOR MARCH 31.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

ENGINEER BRIGADE.

Col. GEORGE D. ROBINSON.

3d Engineers, Corps d'Afrique, Lieut. Col. George A. Harmount.
5th Engineers, Corps d'Afrique, Lieut. Col. Uri B. Pearsall.

GUARDS, &C.

Headquarters troops (Companies A and B), Capt. Richard W. Francis.
Escort (Company C), Capt. Frank Sayles.

THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS (DETACHMENT).

Brig. Gen. THOMAS E. G. RANSOM.

THIRD DIVISION.*

Brig. Gen. ROBERT A. CAMERON.

First Brigade.†

Lieut. Col. AARON M. FLORY.

46th Indiana, Capt. William M. DeHart.
29th Wisconsin, Maj. Bradford Hancock.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM H. RAYNOR.

24th Iowa, Maj. Edward Wright.
28th Iowa, Col. John Connell.
56th Ohio, Capt. Maschil Manring.

Artillery.

1st Missouri Light, Battery A, Lieut. Elisha Cole.
Ohio Light, 2d Battery, Lieut. William H. Harper.

FOURTH DIVISION.‡

Col. WILLIAM J. LANDRAM.

First Brigade.§

Col. FRANK EMERSON.

77th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Lysander R. Webb.
67th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Theodore E. Buehler.
19th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. John Cowan.
23d Wisconsin, Maj. Joseph E. Greene.

Second Brigade.‖

Col. JOSEPH W. VANCE.

130th Illinois, Maj. John B. Reid.
48th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Lindsey.
83d Ohio, Lieut. Col. William H. Baldwin.
96th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Albert H. Brown.

Artillery.

Indiana Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Martin Klauss.
Chicago (Illinois) Mercantile Battery,¶ Lieut. Pinckney S. Cone.

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* At Natchitoches. General Cameron assumed command March 3.

† The Eleventh, Twenty-fourth, and Thirty-fourth Indiana Regiments absent on veteran furlough.

‡ At Natchitoches and on Cane River. Colonel Landram assigned to command March 15, vice Ransom, commanding the detachment.

§ The Sixtieth Indiana on veteran furlough (non-veterans attached to Sixty-seventh Indiana) and the First United States on duty in New Orleans.

‖ The Ninety-seventh Illinois on duty in New Orleans.

¶ Capt. Patrick H. White, of this battery, was chief of artillery detachment Thirteenth Army Corps.

NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS.*

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. EMORY.

First Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT.

29th Maine, Col. George L. Beal.
114th New York, Lieut. Col. Henry B. Morse.
116th New York, Col. George M. Love.
153d New York, Col. Edwin P. Davis.
161st New York, Lieut. Col. William B. Kinsey.

Second Brigade.‡

Brig. Gen. JAMES W. MCMILLAN.

13th Maine, Col. Henry Rust, jr.
15th Maine, Col. Isaac Dyer.
160th New York, Lieut. Col. John B. Van Petten.
47th Pennsylvania, Col. Tilghman H. Good.

Third Brigade.

Col. LEWIS BENEDICT.

30th Maine, Col. Francis Fessenden.
162d New York, Lieut. Col. Justus W. Blanchard.
165th New York, Lieut. Col. Gouverneur Carr.
173d New York, Col. Lewis M. Peck.

Artillery.

Capt. GEORGE T. HEBARD.

New York Light, 25th Battery, Lieut. Irving D. Southworth.
1st United States, Battery L, Lieut. Franck E. Taylor.
Vermont Light, 1st Battery, Capt. George T. Hebard.

SECOND DIVISION.§

Brig. Gen. CUVIER GROVER.

Second Brigade.‖

Col. EDWARD L. MOLINEUX.

13th Connecticut, Col. Charles D. Blinn.
1st Louisiana, Col. William O. Fiske.
90th New York (three companies), Maj. John C. Smart.
159th New York, Lieut. Col. Edward L. Gaul.

Third Brigade.

Col. JACOB SHARPE.

38th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. James P. Richardson.
128th New York, Col. James Smith.
156th New York, Capt. James J. Hoyt.
175th New York (three companies), Capt. Charles McCarthey.

Artillery.

Capt. GEORGE W. FOX.

Massachusetts Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Newman W. Storer.
New York Light, 26th Battery, Capt. George W. Fox.
1st United States, Battery F, Lieut. Hardman P. Norris.
2d United States, Battery C, Lieut. John I. Rodgers.

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* Marched from Franklin March 16; arrived at Alexandria March 25; encamped March 31 at Alexandria and on Cane River; the Third Division in Defenses of New Orleans.

† The Thirtieth Massachusetts on veteran furlough.

‡ The Eighth Vermont on veteran furlough.

§ The First Brigade at Carrollton. Grover assumed command March 14.

‖ The Ninetieth New York (except three companies) in La Fourche District, and One hundred and thirty-first New York at Brashear City.

Cavalry.

3d Maryland, Col. C. Carroll Tevis.

ARTILLERY RESERVE.

Capt. HENRY W. CLOSSON.*

Delaware Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Benjamin Nields.
1st Indiana Heavy (two companies), Capt. William S. Hinkle.

CORPS D'AFRIQUE.

FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.

Col. WILLIAM H. DICKEY.

1st Infantry (73d U. S. Colored Troops), Maj. Hiram E. Perkins.
3d Infantry (75th U. S. Colored Troops), Col. Henry W. Fuller.
12th Infantry (84th U. S. Colored Troops), Capt. James H. Corrin.
22d Infantry (92d U. S. Colored Troops), Col. Henry N. Frisbie.

CAVALRY.

Brig. Gen. ALBERT L. LEE.

First Brigade.

Col. THOMAS J. LUCAS.

16th Indiana Infantry (mounted), Lieut. Col. James H. Redfield.
2d Louisiana Infantry (mounted), Maj. Alfred Hodsdon.
6th Missouri,† Capt. Sidney A. Breese.
14th New York, Maj. Abraham Bassford.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARAI ROBINSON.

87th Illinois Infantry (mounted), Lieut. Col. John M. Crebs.
1st Louisiana, Maj. Algernon S. Badger.

Fourth Brigade.

Col. NATHAN A. M. DUDLEY.

2d Illinois, Maj. Benjamin F. Marsh, jr.
3d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo D. Sargent.
31st Massachusetts Infantry (mounted), Capt. Elbert H. Fordham.
8th New Hampshire Infantry (mounted), Lieut. Col. George A. Flanders.

Fifth Brigade.

Col. OLIVER P. GOODING.

2d New York Veteran, Col. Morgan H. Chrysler.
18th New York, Col. James J. Byrne.
3d Rhode Island (detachment), Maj. George R. Davis.

Artillery.

Massachusetts Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. Ormand F. Nims.
5th United States, Battery G, Lieut. Jacob B. Rawles.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE (DETACHMENT).

Brig. Gen. ANDREW J. SMITH.

FIRST DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS.‡

Second Brigade.

Col. LUCIUS F. HUBBARD.

47th Illinois, Col. John D. McClure.
5th Minnesota, Maj. John C. Becht.
8th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. John W. Jefferson.

Third Brigade.

Col. SYLVESTER G. HILL.

35th Iowa, Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler.
33d Missouri, Lieut. Col. William H. Heath.

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* Chief of corps artillery.

† Howitzer battery, under Capt. Herbert H. Rottaken, attached.

‡ The First Brigade at Memphis, Tenn.; the Eleventh Missouri, of Second Brigade, and the Eighth and Twelfth Iowa of Third Brigade on veteran furlough; the division artillery reported as at Memphis and Vicksburg. Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower assigned to command of both divisions Sixteenth Army Corps, March 9.

THIRD DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM F. LYNCH.

58th Illinois, Maj. Thomas Newlan.
119th Illinois, Col. Thomas J. Kinney.
89th Indiana, Col. Charles D. Murray.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM T. SHAW.

14th Iowa, Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Newbold.
27th Iowa, Col. James I. Gilbert.
32d Iowa, Col. John Scott.
24th Missouri,* Maj. Robert W. Fyan.

Third Brigade.

Col. RISDON M. MOORE.

49th Illinois, Maj. Thomas W. Morgan.
117th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam.
178th New York, Col. Edward Wehler.

ARTILLERY.

Capt. JAMES M. COCKEFAIR.

Indiana Light, 3d Battery, Capt. James M. Cockefair.
Indiana Light, 9th Battery, Capt. George R. Brown.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. T. KILBY SMITH.

First Brigade.

Col. JONATHAN B. MOORE.

41st Illinois, Lieut. Col. John H. Nale.
3d Iowa, Lieut. Col. James Tullis.
33d Wisconsin, Maj. Horatio H. Virgin.

Second Brigade.

Col. LYMAN M. WARD.

81st Illinois, Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers.
95th Illinois, Col. Thomas W. Humphrey.
14th Wisconsin, Capt. Carlos M. G. Mansfield.

Artillery.

1st Missouri Light, Battery M, Lieut. John H. Tiemeyer.

ROSTER FOR APRIL 30.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

ENGINEER BRIGADE.

Col. GEORGE D. ROBINSON.

97th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George A. Harmount.
99th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Uri B. Pearsall.

GUARDS, &C.

Headquarters Troops (Companies A and B), Capt. Richard W. Francis.
Escort (Company C), Capt. Frank Sayles.

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* Non-veterans of Twenty-first Missouri attached.

THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS.*

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. MCCLERNAND.

FIRST DIVISION.

Second Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. MICHAEL K. LAWLER.

49th Indiana, Col. James Keigwin.
69th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Oran Perry.
34th Iowa, Col. George W. Clark.
22d Kentucky, Col. George W. Monroe.
16th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Philip Kershner.
114th Ohio, Lieut. Col. John H. Kelly.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT A. CAMERON.

First Brigade.‡

Col. THOMAS H. BRINGHURST.

46th Indiana, Capt. Henry Snyder.
29th Wisconsin, Col. William A. Green.

Second Brigade.

Col. JAMES R. SLACK.

47th Indiana, Lieut. Col. John A. McLaughlin.
24th Iowa, Maj. Edward Wright.
28th Iowa, Lieut. Col. Bartholomew W. Wilson.
56th Ohio, Col. William H. Raynor.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Col. WILLIAM J. LANDRAM.

First Brigade.§

Col. FREDERICK W. MOORE.

77th Illinois, Maj. John A. Burdett.
19th Kentucky, Capt. William T. Cummins.
83d Ohio, Lieut. Col. William H. Baldwin.
23d Wisconsin, Maj. Joseph E. Greene.

Second Brigade.‖

Col. JOB R. PARKER.

130th Illinois, Capt. John H. Robinson.
67th Indiana, Maj. Francis A. Sears.
48th Ohio, Capt. James R. Lynch.
96th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Albert H. Brown.

ARTILLERY.¶

Maj. ADOLPH SCHWARTZ.

Indiana Light, 1st Battery, Lieut. Lawrence Jacoby.
Chicago (Illinois) Mercantile Battery,** Lieut. Henry Roe.
1st Missouri Light, Battery A, Lieut. Elisha Cole.
Ohio Light, 2d Battery, Lieut. William H. Harper.
Wisconsin Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Jacob T. Foster.

UNATTACHED.

Independent Company Kentucky Infantry, Capt. William F. Patterson.

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* Corps headquarters and Second Brigade, First Division, transferred from Texas to Alexandria, La., April 18 to 26. The remainder of the First and all of the Second Division remained in Texas during the campaign.

† The Seventh Kentucky, Forty-second Ohio, and One hundred and twentieth Ohio at Baton Rouge, La.

‡ The Eleventh, Twenty-fourth, and Thirty-fourth Indiana reported on veteran furlough.

§ The Sixtieth Indiana on veteran furlough and First United States on detached service at New Orleans, La.

‖ The Ninety-seventh Illinois on provost duty at New Orleans, La., and the Eighty-third Ohio attached to First Brigade.

¶ Batteries G, First Michigan Light, and F, First Missouri Light, and the Sixteenth Ohio Battery on Matagorda Island, Tex. Battery A, Second Illinois Light Artillery, and the Seventeenth Ohio Battery at New Orleans. Batteries B and E, First Missouri Light, at Brownsville, Tex. Battery E, Second Illinois Light, at Baton Rouge, La.

** Sent to New Orleans after the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads.

NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. EMORY.

*First Brigade.**

Col. GEORGE L. BEAL.

29th Maine, Lieut. Col. Charles S. Emerson.
114th New York, Maj. Oscar H. Curtis.
116th New York, Col. George M. Love.
153d New York, Col. Edwin P. Davis.
161st New York, Lieut. Col. William B. Kinsey.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES W. MCMILLAN.

13th Maine, Col. Henry Rust, jr.
15th Maine, Col. Isaac Dyer.
160th New York, Lieut. Col. John B. Van Petten.
47th Pennsylvania, Col. Tilghman H. Good.

Third Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JUSTUS W. BLANCHARD.

30th Maine, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Hubbard.
162d New York, Capt. Samuel Cowdrey.
165th New York, Capt. Henry C. Inwood.
173d New York, Capt. Howard C. Conrady.

Artillery.

Capt. BENJAMIN NIELDS.

Delaware Light, 1st Battery, Lieut. Thomas A. Porter.
New York Light, 25th Battery, Lieut. Irving D. Southworth.
1st United States, Battery L, Lieut. Franck E. Taylor.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CUVIER GROVER.

First Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. FRANK S. NICKERSON.

133d New York, Col. Leonard D. H. Currie.
176th New York, Maj. Charles Lewis.

Second Brigade.‡

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BIRGE.

13th Connecticut, Col. Charles D. Blinn.
1st Louisiana, Col. William O. Fiske.
159th New York, Col. Edward L. Molineux.

Third Brigade.

Col. JACOB SHARPE.

38th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. James P. Richardson.
128th New York, Lieut. Col. James P. Foster.
156th New York, Capt. James J. Hoyt.
175th New York (three companies), Capt. Charles McCarthey.

Artillery.

Capt. GEORGE W. FOX.

Massachusetts Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Newman W. Storer.
New York Light, 26th Battery, Capt. George W. Fox.
2d United States, Battery C, Lieut. John I. Rodgers.

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*The Thirtieth Massachusetts on veteran furlough.

†The Ninth Connecticut and Twelfth Maine on veteran furlough. The brigade transferred from Carrollton to Alexandria, La., April 15 to 18.

‡The Ninetieth New York at Donaldsonville and the One hundred and thirty-first New York at Brashear City, La.

THIRD DIVISION.*

ARTILLERY RESERVE.

Capt. HENRY W. CLOSSON.†

1st Indiana Heavy (two companies), Capt. William S. Hinkle.
Vermont Light, 1st Battery, Lieut. Edward Rice.

CORPS D'AFRIQUE.

FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.‡

Col. WILLIAM H. DICKEY.

1st Infantry (73d U. S. Colored Troops), Maj. Hiram E. Perkins.
3d Infantry (75th U. S. Colored Troops), Col. Henry W. Fuller.
12th Infantry (84th U. S. Colored Troops), Capt. James H. Corrin.
22d Infantry (92d U. S. Colored Troops), Col. Henry N. Frisbie.

CAVALRY.§

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD.‖

First Brigade.

Col. THOMAS J. LUCAS.

12th Illinois, Col. Hasbrouck Davis.
16th Indiana Infantry (mounted), Capt. James M. Hildreth.
2d Louisiana Infantry (mounted), Col. Charles Everett.
6th Missouri, Maj. Bacon Montgomery.

Third Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. CREBS.

1st Louisiana, Maj. Algernon S. Badger.
87th Illinois Infantry (mounted), Maj. George W. Land.

Fourth Brigade.

Col. EDMUND J. DAVIS.

2d Illinois, Maj. Benjamin F. Marsh, jr.
3d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo D. Sargent.
31st Massachusetts Infantry (mounted), Capt. Elbert H. Fordham.
2d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. George A. Flanders.

Fifth Brigade.

Col. OLIVER P. GOODING.

2d New York Veteran, Col. Morgan H. Chrysler.
18th New York, Col. James J. Byrne.
3d Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. Charles H. Parkhurst.

Artillery.

Massachusetts Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. Ormand F. Nims.
1st United States, Battery F, Lieut. William L. Haskin.
5th United States, Battery G, Lieut. Jacob B. Rawles.

UNATTACHED.

4th Indiana Cavalry, Company C, Capt. Andrew P. Gallagher.
3d Maryland, Lieut. Col. Byron Kirby.

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* Defenses of New Orleans.
† Chief of Artillery, Nineteenth Army Corps.
‡ As organized and commanded March 31, 1864.
§ The Second Brigade at Port Hudson, La.
‖ General Arnold relieved Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, April 18, 1864.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE (DETACHMENT).

Brig. Gen. ANDREW J. SMITH.

FIRST DIVISION,* SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Second Brigade.

Col. LUCIUS F. HUBBARD.

47th Illinois, Col. John D McClure.
5th Minnesota, Maj. John C. Becht.
8th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. John W. Jefferson.

Third Brigade.

Col. SYLVESTER G. HILL.

35th Iowa, Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler.
33d Missouri, Maj. George W. Van Beek.

THIRD DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM F. LYNCH.

58th Illinois, Maj. Thomas Newlan.
119th Illinois, Col. Thomas J. Kinney.
89th Indiana, Col. Charles D. Murray.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM T. SHAW.

14th Iowa, Capt. Warren C. Jones.
27th Iowa, Col. James I. Gilbert.
32d Iowa, Col. John Scott.
24th Missouri, Maj. Robert W. Fyan.

Third Brigade.

Col. RISDON M. MOORE.

49th Illinois, Capt. Jacob E. Gauen.
117th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam.
178th New York, Col. Edward Wehler.

ARTILLERY.

Capt. JAMES M. COCKEFAIR.

Indiana Light, 3d Battery, Capt. James M. Cockefair.
Indiana Light, 9th Battery, Capt. George R. Brown.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Brig. Gen. T. KILBY SMITH.

First Brigade.

Col. JONATHAN B. MOORE.

41st Illinois, Lieut. Col. John H. Nale.
3d Iowa, Lieut. Col. James Tullis.
33d Wisconsin, Maj. Horatio H. Virgin.

Second Brigade.

Col. LYMAN M. WARD.

81st Illinois, Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers.
95th Illinois, Col. Thomas W. Humphrey.
14th Wisconsin, Capt. Carlos M. G. Mansfield.

Artillery.

1st Missouri Light, Battery M, Lieut. John H. Tiemeyer.

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* The First Brigade on an expedition from Memphis, Tenn., in pursuit of Forrest; the Eleventh Missouri, of Second Brigade, and the Eighth and Twelfth Iowa, of Third Brigade, on veteran furlough; the artillery reported as at Memphis, Tenn.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, U. S. Army, commanding expedition and Department of the Gulf.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, March 18, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose for your information copies of dispatches,* which reached me yesterday morning, announcing the capture of Fort De Russy on the 14th, by General A. J. Smith's division, and of Alexandria on the 15th, by the co-operating naval forces. The army in Western Louisiana, consisting of the First Division of the Nineteenth, the Third and Fourth Divisions of the Thirteenth Corps, and the Cavalry Division, with several regiments of the Corps d'Afrique, was to have moved from Franklin on Alexandria early last week, but its march was interrupted by a severe rain-storm, rendering the roads wholly impassable. The movement was, however, commenced on the ———. The whole force was in motion beyond New Iberia, and my headquarters were en route to join the expedition when the inclosed dispatches arrived. Leaving General Franklin to continue his march as expeditiously as possible to Alexandria, I shall proceed immediately to that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

BATON ROUGE, *March* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. P. STONE,
Chief of Staff:

Just received from General A. J. Smith 24 officers, 300 rank and file, prisoners, taken at Fort De Russy, Red River. Will send them to New Orleans as soon as possible.

P. ST. GEO. COOKE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS PORT HUDSON, LA.,
March 24, 1864.

GENERAL: Dispatches from Alexandria, dated the 22d of March, report that a reconnoitering party of about 3,000 infantry and a brigade of cavalry, with two batteries, under command of General Mower, of General Smith's forces, pursued the enemy 10 miles, skirmishing most of the distance, and driving them before them. General Mower reported to General Smith at 2 o'clock that the enemy was in force in front, with infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and a division was sent forward with two regiments of the cavalry of General Lee. Our troops advanced on the Bayou Rapides road toward Natchitoches, about 21 miles from Alexandria, met the enemy in force, turned his flank, captured 4 pieces of artillery, with caissons,

* Only one inclosure found.

210 prisoners, and a large number of horses and mules. It is reported that Walker is within 6 miles of the point reached, and Taylor 10 miles. Their force is not known. The weather has been very severe—rain, hail, and sleet for forty-eight hours. The river is rising, and has now a depth of 7 feet on the rapids.

Col. Horace B. Sargent received a flesh wound in the leg, which is severe but not dangerous. No other casualties are reported to our troops.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief, Washington, D. C.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, March 25, 1864.

GENERAL: In the absence of the commanding general, and by his special direction, I have the honor to forward herewith copies of a dispatch from Brig. Gen. Charles P. Stone, chief of staff, dated Alexandria, March 23, and of Brig. Gen. A. L. Lee's report* of the affair of Henderson's Hill, fought on the 21st instant.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RICH'D B. IRWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

ALEXANDRIA, *March 23*, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. N. P. BANKS,
Commanding Department of the Gulf, New Orleans:

GENERAL: The steamers Luminary and Meteor have arrived, bringing 300,000 rations, which will all be discharged to-night. General Franklin has reported from near Holmesville, and would pass Cheneyville to-day. I have advised him, under present circumstances, to turn to the left through the piney woods, and make Henderson's Hill, 2 miles hence on the road to Natchitoches, instead of this point; to send his empty wagons here for supplies, to be forwarded to him on the road. Should he adopt this suggestion, I shall send two brigades of cavalry to-morrow to join him on the Cotile.

I have direct information to-day that Green left Houston, Tex., on Tuesday of last week to march by Jopan [Jasper?] to Natchitoches; he has probably reached the Sabine to-day, and if Franklin moves rapidly I hope he will be able to take the enemy in detail, and whip Taylor before Green gets up, or, if Taylor should succeed in falling back toward Natchitoches, to catch Green by himself and rout him. Should Taylor retreat toward the Sabine, our cavalry can press him severely before he can cross, and capture his trains and artillery. The rebels have not succeeded in building the bridge they intended across the Sabine. Should the enemy succeed in

*Not found.

forming a junction of Green's and Taylor's forces and take the Shreveport road, we shall, I find, as already indicated in my previous reports, want forage for most of the road beyond Natchitoches, and I respectfully renew my suggestions that forage be sent here. According to present appearances, Admiral Porter will be able to pass his heavy rams over the rapids in two days from this time, and then it will be safe for the lighter gun-boats and transports to go up the river. Lieutenant-Governor Wells arrived here this morning, and is pleasantly welcomed by the people here.

Captain Dudley, the person authorized to raise the Western Louisiana scouts, has come in. During his passage up, on the flank of Franklin's column, he has gathered 60 recruits, making his company 80 strong. This will, I am confident, prove an acquisition to your force. The men know the country and its routes and its resources perfectly, and all enter the service joyfully under the flag of the nation. Our men came in this morning from the expedition of Monday. They marched in proudly enough, bringing in Edgar's complete battery of 4 guns, captured 250 prisoners and the battle-flag of the Second Louisiana (rebel) Cavalry, under that of Lucas' brigade. No one would have thought by their light step that our men had marched 61 miles, fought, won, and rested, all in forty-eight hours, and that half that time they had been exposed to a pitiless cold rain and hail storm. But so it was. There are 22 commissioned officers whom I have directed to be sent down the river to-morrow morning on the Luminary. The rank and file will go a few hours later on the Meteor. I deem it most safe to separate the officers and men for the voyage.

Lieutenant Sargent, whom I sent to New Iberia last Thursday, to accompany the headquarters train, arrived safely this noon. The train has arrived with the headquarters troops within the lines here. Will be in town to-morrow morning. Lieutenant Sargent reports the troops of Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps as in fine condition. Dickey's brigade, of the Corps d'Afrique, arrived here this morning in good order.

Since writing my first page I have ascertained that the Luminary has been discharged, but that the Meteor will not be discharged before noon to-morrow. The first will leave at 8 a. m., the second at 1 or 2 p. m. to-morrow.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

CHAS. P. STONE,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Alexandria, La., April 2, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of March. Our information is that General Steele is moving on Shreveport from Little Rock, and was at the last advices at Camden. We have scouts on the way to him and must have more definite information soon. General Smith, with a column of 10,000 men from the Army of the Mississippi, is with us. Our troops now occupy Natchitoches, and we hope to be in Shreveport by the 10th of April. I do not fear concentration of the enemy at that point. My fear is that they may not be willing to meet us there; if

not, and my forces are not weakened to too great an extent, I shall pursue the enemy into the interior of Texas, for the sole purpose of destroying or dispersing his forces, if in my power, keeping in view the necessity of the co-operation of some of my troops east of the Mississippi, and losing no time in the campaign in which I am engaged. Until we reach Shreveport it will be impossible to form any definite plan of operations. The enemy has fortified the Sabine at Burr's Ferry and at Sabine Town during the last two months, for the double purpose of preventing the invasion of the State in that direction and covering their retreat. Taylor's forces are said to be on that line. This will not divert us from our movement. General Smith's command will return to Vicksburg on the 15th or 17th of this month, under orders from General Grant. The river has been, and is still, very low, which has delayed our operations. The gunboats were not able to cross the rapids at Alexandria until day before yesterday. Admiral Porter went up to-day. I leave Alexandria for Natchitoches to-night.

Your suggestions in regard to the concentration of my command have been duly considered. I do not think that there is any unnecessary dispersion of troops. I have garrisons on the Rio Grande, at Pass Cavallo, in Texas, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Port Hudson, Pensacola, and Key West; none of them large, considering the importance of the positions they occupy. I should be glad to surrender any of these points if, in the judgment of the Government, it can be done with safety. The President has expressed the wish that our ground may be maintained in Texas. In my belief they are all important. Matagorda Bay commands the entrance to Eastern and Central Texas from the coast; it is of great importance that this place should be held if we should be compelled to operate from the coast. The garrison is not large. It can co-operate with us the moment we enter Texas in our present movement, and hold on the coast a force superior to its own. I inclose a statement of the strength of each garrison.

If you glance at our positions you will see that I am able to draw from each the last man that can be spared from its defense. This is true of every garrison from Brownsville by the way of New Orleans to Port Hudson; Pensacola and Key West, on the Gulf, are the only exceptions. I do not think it possible better to arrange the troops for the operations in which we are engaged at this time, and if we are not limited as to time or greatly reduced in force I am confident of an immediate and successful issue. It will be necessary for the Government to designate which of the posts now held can best be abandoned. One brigade of troops now at Port Hudson is ordered to join this column.

The following statement will present to you the strength of the garrisons of all the posts now held: Rio Grande, 3,000; Pass Cavallo, Matagorda Bay, 3,277; Pensacola, 900; Key West, 791; New Orleans, 1,125; Baton Rouge, 1,565: Plaquemine (colored), 620; Port Hudson (colored), 9,409.

I have the honor to be, with highest respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck,
Headquarters of the Army, Washington, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to orders received from the Government, I left New Orleans on the 22d of March, and established my headquarters at Alexandria on the 25th. The Nineteenth Army Corps and the Third and Fourth Divisions of the Thirteenth, General Ransom commanding, encamped at Alexandria on the 26th of March, the whole under command of Major-General Franklin. Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, with a part of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, entered the Red River on the 13th, capturing Fort De Russy on the 14th, and moved by the river under convoy of the gun-boats to Alexandria, which was occupied by the naval forces, on the 16th, the cavalry of the Nineteenth Corps, Brig. Gen. A. L. Lee commanding, arriving on the 19th. The very low stage of the river rendered it impracticable for the larger gun-boats to cross the rapids in ascending the river until the 3d of April, the lighter draught boats having crossed with great difficulty a day or two earlier. A very spirited movement was made against the enemy on Henderson's Hill, by a detachment of the Sixteenth Corps, under General Mower, and a detachment of cavalry of the Nineteenth Corps, in which 4 guns and 250 prisoners were taken from the enemy. Col. Horace B. Sargent, First Massachusetts Cavalry, was seriously wounded in this brilliant action.

The steamers assigned to the Marine Brigade, being unable to cross the rapids, were ordered to return to Vicksburg, at the request of General McPherson.

The troops anticipated the movement of the gun-boats, and reached Natchitoches on the 2d of April, General Smith's column by the river, and the Nineteenth and Thirteenth Corps, under General Franklin, by rapid marches. The river was steadily falling, and the larger gun-boats were unable to pass Grand Ecore. The troops of General A. J. Smith's command, except one division, which was ordered to go by the river, took up the line of march for Pleasant Hill, 38 miles distant from Grand Ecore, where I made my headquarters on the evening of the 7th of April, the cavalry commanded by General Lee being several miles in advance. Very heavy rains during this march made the single road within our reach almost impassable, and greatly impeded the progress of the trains and troops. The cavalry, which throughout had constantly pressed the rear guard of the enemy's troops, had several very sharp skirmishes, in all of which we had been successful, although suffering considerable loss. The enemy made his first stand at Wilson's farm, near Pleasant Hill, on the afternoon of the 7th. The fight lasted a couple of hours, when he was driven from the field, with considerable loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. The next decided stand was at Carroll's Mill, 8 miles beyond Pleasant Hill, where our advance was stubbornly resisted by a still stronger force with artillery. A brigade of infantry was sent forward to support the cavalry and the enemy retired upon their advance. They were driven steadily during the day to a position within 5 miles of Mansfield.

My headquarters on the morning of the 8th were at a bayou, 10 miles beyond Pleasant Hill, where the column halted in order that the rear of the column, still impeded by almost impassable roads, might close up. At 10 o'clock I rode to the front, where some skirmishing had occurred, intending to return to my quarters on the bayou. The forces in the front consisted of the cavalry under Brig.

Gen. A. L. Lee and a detachment of the Thirteenth Corps, under Brig. Gen. T. E. G. Ransom. Upon reaching the front I found the line of skirmishers already engaged with the enemy's cavalry, although but few had yet shown themselves. It soon appeared that our march was likely to be resisted by a stronger force than had yet been encountered. I instantly sent orders for the rapid advance of the troops to the front, though without notice or anticipation of a general engagement. The active movements of our skirmishers soon developed a strong line of the enemy in position, extending at some length on the right and left of the line of march in front of the Sabine Cross-Roads. It had been deemed of considerable importance to occupy this position by our forces in order to prevent a concentration of the forces of the enemy. General Ransom moved forward to the support of the cavalry, and the skirmishers opened a running fire, which lasted for some hours, though without developing the full strength of the enemy's forces or position. At 4 o'clock on the 8th, a tremendous fire suddenly opened along the whole of this line on the right and left of the road, when it became manifest that the enemy in full force and in strong position was in our front. The contest lasted for an hour, our troops resisting with remarkable spirit and courage the onsets of the enemy, until, utterly overpowered by numbers, they were compelled to fall back upon the rear of the column. A sharp ravine or gully separated the plain where this engagement had commenced from the belt of almost impenetrable woods through which we had marched. On passing this point it appeared that the entire cavalry train, with its artillery, occupied the road nearly to the line of skirmishers. The fatal consequences of this most incautious advance of trains and artillery were apparent upon the breaking of our lines in front of the enemy's position. Upon the retreat of the advanced guard the enemy instantaneously enveloped the train of wagons, and it was impossible to withdraw the artillery in consequence of the preoccupation of the ground by the wagons; and the encumbered roads impeded the movements of troops and caused many prisoners to fall into the hands of the enemy. The disasters of the day are to be attributed to the fatally incautious advance of the large cavalry train and the surplus artillery rather than to the strength of the enemy, his unexpected resistance, or the deficient valor of our troops. It is always difficult to ascertain the position of a concealed adversary, and temporary defeat is to be expected when the front of an advancing column encounters the base of that of the enemy.

Every possible exertion was made to rally and reform the forces which had been engaged, but all efforts failed. The loss of prisoners, artillery, and wagons and the fierce pursuit of a victorious and desperate foe for the moment seemed to paralyze individuals and masses. The troops fell back, for the most part in good order, fighting in front of the enemy, the men retaining their arms until toward sunset, when the First Division of the Nineteenth Corps, Brig. Gen. W. H. Emory commanding, had advanced to our support. Under cover of a line of skirmishers from its First Brigade, the division deployed into line of battle on the crest of a hill, General Dwight's brigade on the right, Colonel Benedict's brigade on the left, and McMillan's in reserve. The unexpected encounter with this force, while in pursuit of what he thought a routed army, was very desperate. He attacked the line at every point with demoniac energy, but the division presented at every onset an immovable wall of fire; and

after a contest maintained with the greatest spirit on both sides for more than an hour and a half, the enemy retired from the field with very heavy loss. The forces of the enemy engaged in this affair were the Louisiana troops and a part of the Texan and Arkansas forces, the whole being under the command of General Taylor and numbering about 15,000. General Mouton was killed. On our side all our forces were engaged at different periods of the day, excepting General A. J. Smith's command—the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps.

We were compelled, anticipating an attack the next morning from the enemy, either to await the advance of General Smith's corps or to fall back to meet him. The want of water, the weakness of the position we held, and the uncertainty of General Smith being able to reach the position we occupied at day-break, led to the adoption of the second course. Our forces silently retired during the night, and in the morning took up a position on Pleasant Hill, joining the forces of General Smith, who had halted at Pleasant Hill upon receiving information of our movement. Pleasant Hill represents a plain about 1 mile square, the residences of the town being located upon its borders. It has a gentle slope to the west. Surrounding it were extensive tracts of woodland. General Dwight's brigade held the right of the line, with McMillan's brigade in reserve. Shaw's brigade, of the Sixteenth, upon the left and center, and Benedict's brigade, of the Nineteenth, and Lynch's brigade, of the Sixteenth Corps, on the left; Mower's division, of the Sixteenth Corps, in reserve. The enemy began to reconnoiter the new position we had assumed at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, and as early as 1 or 2 o'clock opened a sharp fire of skirmishers, which was kept up at intervals during the afternoon. The approaches of the enemy were covered by thick woods, but it was evident by his maneuvers that he was preparing for an attack upon our left. To protect this, a regiment was placed in the woods, and the troops of the Thirteenth Army Corps, under General Cameron, were directed to occupy the road leading from Pleasant Hill to Natchitoches, covering the train which had been ordered to the rear, in order that the operations of the army might not be encumbered, and at the same time protecting our left flank. Skirmishing continued during the afternoon, with occasional discharges of artillery. About 5 o'clock the enemy abandoned all pretension of maneuvering and made a most desperate attack upon the brigades on the left center, commanded by Colonels Benedict and Shaw. The line wavered at this point momentarily, but, supported by the First Vermont Battery, soon regained its position, and the enemy was repulsed. Finding the position so much stronger than anticipated, or in pursuance of other plans, he gradually worked his way to the center and right, where the same desperate attacks were repeated upon our right flank, the whole force of the enemy gradually concentrating upon our right. The brigades of McMillan and Dwight repelled every attack, and drove him back with terrible loss. The brigade commanded by General Dwight had been suddenly changed at the commencement of the action, so as to cover the right of our center and a part of the right flank, and became in the end the pivot upon which the entire lines changed front to meet the altered plans of the enemy. The battle lasted until 9 o'clock in the evening. The rebels had concentrated their whole strength in futile efforts to break the line at different points. The most severe pressure occurred toward the close

of the engagement upon the front occupied by General Dwight's brigade. The troops held in reserve moved forward at the critical moment and maintained our position, from which the enemy was driven precipitately and with terrible destruction of life. He fled to the woods upon the right, and was pursued with great energy by the whole of our forces until it was impossible in the darkness to distinguish friend from foe.

The losses were great on both sides, but that of the rebels, as we could judge from the appearance of the battle-field, more than double our own. It is impossible at this time to state the exact extent of our losses. Col. Lewis Benedict was killed upon the left, at the close of the struggles, having received in the early part of the engagement a severe wound, against which he bore up until the fatal shot deprived him of life. Many most valuable officers fell in leading their troops. We recaptured 3 pieces of cannon, taken on the day previous, 4 or 5 caissons, a large number of small-arms, and 500 prisoners. The loss of the enemy in officers commanding important positions during the day is said by the prisoners captured to have been very great. The rebel officers and men who have fallen into our hands, as well as officers and men of our own command, represent this struggle as more sanguinary and desperate for the brief period it continued than any engagement in which they have ever participated. The rout of the enemy was complete. At the close of the engagement the victorious party found itself without rations and without water. To clear the field for the fight, the train had been sent to the rear upon the single line of communication through the woods, and could not be brought to the front during the night. There was neither water for man or beast, except such as the now exhausted wells had afforded during the day, for miles around.

Previous to the movement of the army from Natchitoches orders had been given to the transport fleet, with a portion of the Sixteenth Corps, under the command of Brig. Gen. Kilby Smith, to move up the river, if it was found practicable, to some point near Springfield Landing with the view of effecting a junction with the army at that point on the river. The surplus ammunition and supplies were on board these transports. It was impossible to ascertain whether the fleet had been able to reach the point designated. The rapidly falling river and the increased difficulties of navigation made it appear almost certain that it would not be able to attain the point proposed. A squadron of cavalry sent down to the river, accompanied by Mr. Young, of the engineer corps, who was thoroughly acquainted with the country, reported on the day of the battle that no tidings of the fleet could be obtained on the river, and we were compelled to assume that the increasing difficulties of navigation had prevented it, even if disaster had not occurred from the obstructions which the enemy had placed in the river. These considerations, the absolute deprivation of water for man or beast, the exhaustion of rations, and the failure to effect a connection with the fleet on the river, made it necessary for the army, although victorious in the terrible struggle through which it had just passed, to retreat to a point where it would be certain in communicating with the fleet and where it would have an opportunity of reorganization. The shattered condition of the Thirteenth Army Corps and the cavalry made this indispensable. The wounded were gathered from the battle-field, placed in comfortable hospitals, and left under the care

of competent surgeons and assistants. The dead remaining upon the field, as far as possible, were buried during the night. The next day medical supplies and provisions, with competent attendants, were sent in for the sustenance of the wounded, and at daybreak the army reluctantly fell back to its position at Grand Ecore, for the purpose of communicating with the fleet and obtaining supplies, to the great disappointment of the troops, who, flushed with success, were eager for another fight. A detachment of cavalry under Mr. Young was sent to communicate with Admiral Porter, to notify him of the movements of the army, which message was delivered. Dispatches were also sent to him by the river, by the transport Red Chief, giving the same information. Much anxiety was felt for the safety of the fleet when it was known that they had passed up the river, but all apprehension was relieved on the evening of the 12th by the receipt of information that the gun-boats and all the transports were safe, although they had been heavily assailed by the enemy, with musketry and artillery. Before this information was received, a pontoon bridge had been thrown across Red River, with a view of sending up a force to assist the boats in their passage, and later, upon the receipt of further information, two brigades of General A. J. Smith's command, with two batteries of artillery and a detachment of cavalry, were sent to their assistance. The safety of the army, as well as the success of the expedition, seemed to justify this movement. Leaving Pleasant Hill, it was 15 miles before any water was found. It would have been impossible for the army, without supplies of water and rations, to have sustained another battle, in the condition in which it was then placed.

The troops are in good heart and spirit, and eager for contest. The enemy we encountered numbered from 22,000 to 25,000, embracing all the troops west of the Mississippi, excepting a small force on the Texas coast and a small portion of cavalry on the north side of the river. General Kirby Smith is said by the prisoners to have commanded in person on the 9th, and was supported by Price, Green, and the most distinguished generals of the rebel army. General Mouton was killed, and also two officers commanding brigades.

No communication has been received from General Steele of later date than the 2d of April, when it is represented he had an engagement with a portion of Price's command, which had been repulsed. This is confirmed by the reports of rebel prisoners, who state that General Price (two of whose divisions were at the battle of Pleasant Hill) had a contest with General Steele a week or ten days before the recent battle, from which they had just returned.

We have captured from the enemy in this campaign 23 guns and 1,500 prisoners, who are now in our possession. The only loss we have sustained, except in killed and wounded, was on the morning of the 8th of April, when the train and batteries of the cavalry were abandoned. Sixteen guns, 2 mountain howitzers, and 125 wagons show the extent of this loss, several of which were captured this day. An advance will be commenced immediately upon a line differing somewhat from that adopted first and rendering the column less dependent upon a river proverbially as treacherous as the enemies we fight.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Comdg. Armies of the U. S., Washington, D. C.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I had the honor to transmit to you, at Washington, a report of recent operations in this department. We have been compelled to act under circumstances of great difficulty, which have materially affected the course of events, but I trust that the results may meet with your approval. An immediate advance will be made upon the objective point of the expedition—Shreveport. In my conversation with General Sherman at New Orleans I stated that I hoped to complete our operations within thirty days after reaching Red River at Fort De Russy or Alexandria, which we should accomplish by the 15th or 17th of March. I am still of opinion that this would have been accomplished except for the unavoidable delays that have been occasioned by the low stage of water in the Red River, and the very great difficulty of maintaining our communications on that line. My instructions, however, were from Major-General Halleck, who directed me to move upon Shreveport, and informed me that Generals Sherman and Steele would co-operate with me in that view. No limitation of time was placed upon the movement, although it was expected to be accomplished with the least possible delay. I had the honor to receive from you a communication, to which a reply was forwarded on the 26th of March, by Lieutenant Towner. You instructed me in that communication that if the expedition could not be accomplished within ten or fifteen days of the time designated by General Sherman, the command of General Smith would be ordered to return to Vicksburg, even should it occasion the abandonment of the chief object of the expedition. The time specified I understand to be the 15th or 17th of the month, and I have hopes that within ten or fifteen days of that time our object will be accomplished, when General Smith will return. I have the honor to suggest, however, that at this time his departure will affect other interests besides that of the possession of Shreveport. A large fleet of gun-boats and transports are in the upper river, which cannot possibly descend below Alexandria on account of the falling water. I have in my immediate front an army of 25,000 men, among them some of the best troops of the rebel Government, and commanded by distinguished and desperate officers. The withdrawal of General Smith's command from my forces at this time places me at their mercy, and the army under my command. It will lead to the sacrifice of the army and the navy, as well as the abandonment of the expedition. My judgment is against it, and I cannot believe that were the circumstances known to the Government at Washington that it would be insisted upon. Admiral Porter agrees with me fully in this view. I need not say that at the earliest moment when it may be done consistent with the safety of the army and navy, I shall execute the orders in relation to General Smith's return; until then, I hope he may be allowed to co-operate with us.

The rebel army on the Red River comprises the whole forces of the Trans-Mississippi Department, except a small number on the coast of Texas, under Magruder. If this organized force is destroyed it can never be replaced. I regard that result as certain to be accomplished if our movement is not interrupted. This will enable you to throw all the forces now occupied in the Department of the Gulf, as well as a large portion of those in Arkansas and Missouri, to the support of the armies east of the Mississippi. If this expedition is abandoned without the destruction of the organized forces of the

enemy now in our front it will leave the Red River in his possession, and enable him constantly to threaten the navigation of the Mississippi. An army of 25,000 men holding possession of the Red River makes the free navigation of the Mississippi a matter of perpetual uncertainty. This ought not to be. Its destruction is a work of certainty, requiring but small force and a short time, and will contribute greatly to the success of the cause of the Government if accomplished without unnecessary delay. I await instructions from you upon this point with anxiety, promising that no unnecessary detention of the command of General Smith will be made.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, April 17, 1864—(via Cairo, April 28).
(Received 4.45 p. m.)

I send by mail to-day a dispatch, the substance as follows: The enemy will defend Shreveport to the last extremity. While I threaten it they will abandon all ideas of threatening Arkansas and Missouri. General Steele does not co-operate with me when moving on a different line. I request to be re-enforced by General Steele and his co-operating force, and also by troops from Missouri or Kansas, that I may advance immediately upon Shreveport. In this manner I shall defend Arkansas and Missouri, and prevent offensive operations by the enemy in those States, while I shall live upon and exhaust one of their most fertile regions, a region that they must hold or their army must cease to exist. This campaign cannot be abandoned without abandoning the navy and permitting the invasion of Missouri.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Comdg. Armies of the U. S., Washington, D. C.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 17, 1864.

GENERAL: The campaign upon which we have entered has already developed several facts of great importance. First. The enemy regards the possession of Shreveport as a point vital to the existence of the trans-Mississippi army, and will fight to maintain its possession with all their forces and with great desperation. Second. It has changed their operations from an offensive to a defensive character. It is unquestionable that they had intended to make an invasion of Missouri, which they hoped would have disturbed the arrangement of troops east of the Mississippi. By this movement

we have defeated that expectation, and hold their full strength for the defense of their position, relieving entirely Missouri and Arkansas. Third. The co-operation of Steele, upon the line on which he is moving, renders us no assistance whatever. We should have but one column and one line, and with his forces there would be no obstacle to our progress. Fourth. The low stage of water in Red River deprives us substantially of the assistance of the gun-boats, leaving us to depend entirely upon the strength of our land forces, with very little aid even of water transportation above the point now occupied.

These considerations together show that the campaign is of greater importance than was generally anticipated at its commencement, and also that immediate success, with a concentration of our forces, is within our reach. I have drawn from my department all the men that can be spared, which gives me, at the outside, 20,000 bayonets. The junction of General Steele's forces would give me all the strength I need. Governor Hall, of Missouri, who is here, and who accepts the idea I have presented, that this campaign is a defense of Missouri, represents that there is a large unoccupied force in Missouri and Kansas, from which 10,000 men could be spared without detriment to the public service. I earnestly represent the increased importance of this campaign; the impossibility of withdrawing from it without the sacrifice of the navy, in the present state of navigation; the fact that it has changed the operations of the enemy from an offensive to a purely defensive attitude; that it is a protection to Missouri and Arkansas, as well as Louisiana, and the certainty of its immediate and successful termination, as reasons why the forces west of the Mississippi should be concentrated as far as possible upon this line and with this column. If the rebel army under Smith is destroyed no other can be organized, and the defense of these States can be safely left, in a great measure, to the people themselves, the whole of the available force of the Union army being turned, in the course of the season, to the assistance of the troops east of the Mississippi.

Unless this army can be destroyed or dispersed it will require all our forces, and more, to protect these States. I regard it of the highest importance, in the changed aspect of affairs, that this concentration should be made.

I inclose herewith a statement of the garrisons in my department, with the numbers of men at each, and suggest that the forces are not too large for the defense of the posts which they hold. The river is steadily falling; is scarcely navigable above this point. But our expedition does not depend upon the river. We only want the men necessary to overcome the enemy, who is in full force between us and Steele, moving alternately against one and the other, neither column being in sufficient force to effect his position. If we leave the Red River in possession of the unbroken forces of the enemy it will require constant vigilance and large forces to protect the navigation of the Mississippi or any of the trans-Mississippi States from invasion during the year.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Comdg. Armies of the U. S., Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 17, 1864.

Effective aggregate for duty of troops at the several posts and stations in the Department of the Gulf:

Rio Grande	3,000
Pass Cavallo	1,227
Pensacola	1,500
Key West	791
New Orleans	750
Baton Rouge	885
Port Hudson	6,809

The above statement is as accurate as the imperfect material at hand will admit of making.

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GRAND ECORE, LA., *April* 18, 1864.

The rebel army of the West, 25,000 strong, is in our front. The withdrawal of my command without the destruction or dispersion of this force will enable them to commence offensive operations in Missouri, Arkansas, or Louisiana, or against each of these States successively. It will require the whole force, more than a hundred thousand strong, west of the Mississippi to defend these States against the successive attacks of this force, and it will be difficult to concentrate any considerable force from the army on the Mississippi for operations against Mobile with such an active and powerful enemy in our rear. The destruction or dispersion of this army, the desolation of the country it occupies, and the destruction of the land or water transportation will make it impossible for a reorganization or any movement against the States bordering upon the Mississippi, and enable a strong force of our troops to commence an immediate and successful campaign against Mobile. This result is certain to be accomplished within thirty days, if only a portion of Steele's command could operate with me upon this line, independent of the river and of the navy. This campaign is not of my suggestion, but its results are so much more important than I first thought, and so certain to be attained, that I hesitate to withdraw my forces without positive orders, and I send this dispatch by telegraph, knowing that a reply can be telegraphed me in return without delay. Important as the campaign is, I would not embarrass the greater operations of the army in the East.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT.

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ALEXANDRIA, LA., *April* 30, 1864.

My dispatch of the 24th gave you information of the arrival of my command at Natchitoches on the evening of the 20th instant, and also that an immediate advance upon the objective point of the expedition was in contemplation, upon a line differing somewhat from that upon which we had retired, with a view to render my column less dependent upon the river. The rapidly falling river, however,

made it dangerous to undertake the proposed movement. Some of the boats of the fleet were aground, and it was the opinion of the admiral, unequivocally expressed, upon consultation with him, that it was inexpedient for the army or navy to advance until the rise of the river was assured. The Eastport, in moving down the river, had run aground, and was with great difficulty got afloat. When, from the condition of the river, it became apparent that neither the army nor the fleet could move to Shreveport with any reasonable prospect of a return, I directed that the army should fall back to Alexandria. In the mean time the Eastport, one of the most important of the naval vessels, ran aground about 8 miles below Natchitoches. No movement of the army was made until information was received that the Eastport was afloat. Our train was put en route for Alexandria at 4 p. m. on the 21st, and on the morning of the 22d the troops took up the line of march. Information had been received from various sources that considerable bodies of the enemy had been moving from our front to our rear, for a purpose not definitely ascertained. It was represented that the object was either to attack Alexandria, to obstruct our return by occupying Monett's Bluff, on Cane River, or to take up a position at the mouth of that stream for the purpose of intercepting the passage of the transports. To prevent the successful accomplishment of either of these purposes of the enemy the army made a rapid march from Natchitoches to Monett's Bluff. The information we had received as to the movements of the enemy were verified. A strong force, variously represented from 5,000 to 7,000, with two batteries of artillery, were found to be in position at Monett's Bluff, and occupying the only road which was accessible to the army in its movements toward Alexandria. This was undoubtedly the force which had contemplated an attack upon Alexandria.

On the morning of the 23d, preparations were made to dislodge the enemy from this position. A force of 5,000 men, composed of a division of the Nineteenth Corps, under General Birge, and a division of the Thirteenth, under General Cameron, the whole being under command of General Birge, crossed Cane River on the right of the enemy's position, and by a flank march of several miles reached a hill, the occupation of which rendered Monett's Bluff untenable to the enemy. The possession of this height was of vital importance to either army. It was heavily wooded, protected by deep ravines, and covered a position which, occupied by the enemy, seemed well nigh impregnable. The forces under General Birge assailed this position at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 23d, and after a very spirited and gallant contest of two hours or more carried the hill and compelled the retreat of the enemy. Our loss in this action in killed and wounded was from 150 to 200. A full list of the killed and wounded will be forwarded as speedily as possible. Among the wounded was Colonel Fessenden, of the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, who commanded the assailing brigade. The troops in the front, immediately upon the success of the force on the right, occupied the bridge and the bluff commanding the river, where we rested for the night. The wounded were brought in and proper attention paid to the burial of the dead. The troops halted in this position during the night, the trains being sent forward early in the morning.

At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 24th, six guns were fired by the enemy at our rear. This was apparently a concerted signal to the forces in occupation of the bluff on the 23d, that the enemy in the

rear, which had been re-enforced the day previous, was ready for the attack. The force for which the signal was intended had retired the day previous, but the guns were answered by General A. J. Smith, commanding the rear guard, who opened a brisk fire at daybreak and maintained a very spirited action for several hours, in which the charge of the enemy was gallantly repulsed and his forces driven back with severe loss. The losses on our side were 6 killed and 15 wounded. On the afternoon of the 24th, the column took up its march for Alexandria, undisturbed by the enemy in flank or rear, where it arrived on the 25th and 26th. Our forces were in no disorder, and in nowise dispirited.

Had the river been in condition to admit, we might have assumed the advance, but the water had fallen so low that it was impossible for the fleet to go below the rapids at Alexandria. There was no course left for the army but to remain for the protection of the fleet. The fleet above the rapids comprised nine iron-clads—the strength of the fleet of the upper Mississippi—indispensable to maintaining the supremacy of the Government on that river, or to the protection of the mouth against domestic or foreign enemies. It became, therefore, indispensable that the army should remain at Alexandria for the protection of the fleet. The advanced corps of the enemy manifested a determined spirit to concentrate all his forces in this vicinity, either for an attack on Alexandria or to get possession of the river below, for the purpose of cutting off our communications. His force, concentrated for this purpose, numbers from 30,000 to 35,000 men. It is indispensable that all the force of this command should be retained here, and the orders given to General Smith by General Sherman to rejoin his command east of the Mississippi were countermanded.

On the 28th, a reconnaissance of the enemy in force caused an expectation of an attack and a general engagement, but the day passed without other conflict than that of sharp skirmishing between the advance cavalry of either army. The movements on both sides of the river below Alexandria indicate his purpose to avoid an attack on this post, and to concentrate below for the purpose of cutting off our communication with the Mississippi.

The army is in good spirits and condition, has plenty of supplies for the present, and is perfectly confident of success in any engagement that may occur with the enemy. A pontoon bridge has been thrown across the river, for the purpose of offensive operations against any detachments of the enemy on the left bank of the river, and the construction of a wing-dam across the river, for the purpose of raising the water so that the gun-boats may be floated below the rapids, has been commenced. The line of defense, the position of the town, and the location of the bridge and the dam, to which reference is herein made, are indicated on the map* inclosed, which will present an accurate view of the position of our army at this time. It is necessary only to say that we are confident of being able to maintain our position without injury, and are grieved only that it is at present rendered impossible for us to co-operate with any general movements of the armies east of the Mississippi.

Maj. Gen. David Hunter arrived on the morning of the 28th. He has delivered to me your dispatch, and communicated to me your views as to the future operations of this force. He has made himself acquainted with every feature of our situation, and can repre-

*Not found.

sent to you truly the necessities which control our action. It has been deemed advisable that you should be placed in possession of the facts as soon as possible, and he leaves for that purpose this afternoon.

Major-General McClernand, with the larger part of the force recently at Matagorda Bay, arrived here on the evening of the 27th. The balance of the force will reach here as soon as the material at Pass Cavallo can be disposed of. I have reduced the garrisons upon the river to the lowest strength consistent with safety. Nothing has been left undone which would strengthen the force engaged in the movement upon the Red River. In view of the great efforts made by the enemy to concentrate a force sufficient to destroy this army, and to capture the fleet of gun-boats and transports, it is advisable that our force should be increased by 5,000 or 10,000 men if possible. It will make certain the destruction of the organized army of the enemy west of the Mississippi, the whole of which is here, and will, in that event, enable us to move against the enemy east of the Mississippi in such direction as you shall direct. It is nearly certain that the whole of this force would have been directed against New Orleans if we had become inextricably involved in operations east of the Mississippi; or in the event of our remaining at New Orleans, it is certain that the invasion of Arkansas and Missouri by this force would have occurred. Both of these dangers have been avoided by the campaign which we have made, and except for the delay in co-operating with other forces in other parts of the country, I do not know that anything has occurred which should be a cause of serious regret to the Government, except the accidental loss which occurred on the morning of the 8th of April by the incautious advance of our cavalry upon the enemy, in full force, with the unprotected trains and artillery of our advanced guard. Except the loss sustained on this occasion, we have not lost a wagon, or a gun, or any material of the army, and have not suffered unduly in killed and wounded in the several severe conflicts through which we have passed. Our loss in killed, wounded, and captured, including all missing men, is less than 3,500; that of the enemy exceeds 5,000.

I inclose copy of dispatch received from Major-General Steele by Captain Dunham, an officer of my staff, which is the first communication I have been able to effect with General Steele since the campaign commenced. You will observe that his language is nearly identical with my former dispatch—that the line upon which he was moving was too far distant, and rendered impossible the co-operation of the two armies.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT.

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ALEXANDRIA, *May* 8, 1864.

(Via Memphis 19th and Cairo 21st. Received 12.30 p. m., 21st.)

The dam will be completed to-morrow, 9th instant, and the gun-boats relieved; we shall then move immediately for the Mississippi.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
ON BOARD U. S. STEAMER AVENGER,
Mississippi River, May 21, 1864. (Received 12 m., 27th.)

At the date of my dispatches, transmitted by General Hunter, orders had been given for the construction of a dam on the Red River above Alexandria, for the relief of the entire fleet of the navy, which was detained above the rapids. The dam was commenced on Monday, the 2d of May, and was completed on Sunday, the 8th. This work was constructed under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, of the Fourth Wisconsin Volunteers, to whom it is impossible to accord too much praise for the skill and energy with which he pursued this work. The army gave its labor to the completion of the work, night and day, with the greatest spirit and success. Two of the gun-boats came over on Sunday evening, and on Monday morning, at 5 o'clock, a portion of the dam gave way, which reduced the water on the rapids to its original level. Its reconstruction was immediately commenced, and completed, with additional wing-dams above the rapids, on Thursday, the 12th, which raised the water to a sufficient height to allow the boats to pass; and on Thursday evening and Friday morning they all passed over the falls created by the dam in safety. The rapids extend in length 1¼ miles, making a gradual descent of 8 feet and some inches, and the fall occasioned by the water passing through an opening made in the dam for their final escape was 5½ feet, making an entire fall of 13½ feet. On the release of the gun-boats the army took up its line of march for Simsport. It encountered the enemy in full force on its march, on a prairie near Mansura, where it occupied a position covering three roads, leading to Cheneyville on the right, to Simsport on the left, [and to Moreauville,] over one of which the army must pass. A sharp engagement ensued, lasting about four hours, and chiefly confined to the artillery. Our troops getting possession of the wood in which the enemy was posted drove him back on the road to Moreauville. We pursued him upon the second road to Simsport, where it arrived on the morning of the 17th. The Atchafalaya was bridged by the use of the transport vessels, and the passage of the river was completed. On the evening of the 20th [18th?], General Mower's division of the Sixteenth Corps, supported by a brigade of cavalry of the Nineteenth Corps, had a sharp engagement on Yellow Bayou with the enemy, in which we captured 180 prisoners. Our loss in killed and wounded was 140. The enemy's force was estimated at 8,000. Throughout the entire campaign, except in killed and wounded (in which at Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Mansura, Yellow Bayou, and other battles our losses have been severe), no prisoners, guns, wagons, or other material of the army have been captured by the enemy, except that abandoned to him in the unexpected engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads on the morning of the 8th of April. With the exception of the losses sustained there the material of the army is complete. General Canby arrived at Simsport on the 18th, and remained until the passage of the river was completed. The troops will rendezvous at Morganza, on the Mississippi, a point they reach to-day and to-morrow.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

NEW YORK, *April* 6, 1865.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a report of the military operations of my command in the Department of the Gulf, in 1862, 1863, and 1864. It is prepared by direction of the Adjutant-General. Being absent from the records, I have been unable to state as fully and as much in detail as could be desired the history of the different campaigns. After the campaign of Port Hudson the troops were engaged immediately and continuously, and the officers were for that reason unable to make detailed reports of the operations of their respective commands. I have been unable, therefore, to name the officers who deserve the consideration and favor of the Government for distinguished services, of whom there are many, and I shall ask leave to submit an additional report upon that subject. The details of the Port Hudson campaign are drawn from such publications and dispatches of the time as have been within my reach. Any error that may occur will be corrected at the earliest possible moment.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

SIR: While engaged in earnest efforts to effect the capture of Galveston, with a view to those general operations contemplated for the winter campaign, I was informed by a dispatch, received January 23 and dated January 11, that "it was proposed that General Steele should advance to Red River if he could rely upon your (my) co-operation and be certain of receiving supplies on that line," and that "the best military opinion of the generals of the West seemed to favor operations on Red River, provided the stage of the water would enable the gun-boats to co-operate;" that "this would open a better theater of operations than any other for such troops as General Grant could spare during the winter." I was also informed that Major-General Grant and Major-General Steele had been written to, and I was *instructed to communicate with them upon this subject.*

Having made known my plan of operations on the coast, and fully stated at different times the difficulties to be encountered in movements by land in the direction of Alexandria and Shreveport, I did not feel at liberty to decline participation in the campaign, which had been pressed upon my attention from the time I was assigned to the command of this department, and which was now supported by the concurrent opinions of the general officers in the West, on account of difficulties which might be obviated by personal conference with commanders, or by orders from the General-in-Chief. It was not, however, without well-founded apprehensions of the result of the campaign, and a clear view of the measures (which I suggested) indispensable to success, that I entered upon this new campaign. The necessity of a perfect unity of command and of purpose, as well as of constant communication between the forces assigned to this duty, and then separated by hundreds of miles, was too apparent to admit of question.

I replied to this dispatch on the 23d of January, stating that "*with the forces proposed,*" to wit, General Sherman and General Steele and my own disposable force, I concurred in the opinion that the Red River was the shortest and best line of defense for Louisiana and Arkansas, and as a base of operations against Texas, and that with

my own forces and those of General Steele and the assistance of General Sherman the success of the movements on that line might be made certain and important, and that I should cordially co-operate with them in executing the orders of the Government.

In order that the inherent difficulties attending the proposed combined movement, which had been thoroughly tested in the campaign of 1863 and 1864, and which I had represented with as much earnestness as seemed to be proper, might be presented in a manner most likely to gain attention, I directed Maj. D. C. Houston, chief engineer of the department, who possessed the highest claims to favorable consideration from professional qualifications and experience, and his acquaintance with the route, to prepare a memorial upon operations on Red River, which had been long under consideration. This was transmitted to the headquarters of the Army, and appeared to have received the attention and approval of the General-in-Chief. It stated with precision the obstacles to be encountered and the measures necessary to accomplish the object in view. No change would be required in this statement if it had been written in review rather than in anticipation of the campaign. It recommended as a condition indispensable to success, first, such complete preliminary organization as would avoid the least delay in our movements after the campaign had opened; second, that a line of supply be established from the Mississippi independent of water-courses; third, the concentration of the forces west of the Mississippi and such other force as should be assigned to this duty from General Sherman's command, in such a manner as to expel the enemy from Northern Louisiana and Arkansas; fourth, such preparation and concert of action among the different corps employed as to prevent the enemy, by keeping him constantly employed, from operating against our positions or forces elsewhere; and, fifth, that the entire force should be placed under the command of a single general.

Preparations for a long campaign were advised, and the month of May indicated as the point of time when the occupation of Shreveport might be anticipated. Not one of these suggestions, so necessary in conquering the inherent difficulties of the expedition, were carried into execution, nor was it in my power to establish them. The troops under command of General Steele were acting independently of my command, under orders not communicated to me, and at such distance that it was impossible to ascertain his movements or to inform him of my own, so that we might co-operate with or support each other. The detachment of troops from the command of Major-General Sherman, though operating upon the same line with my own, were under special orders, having ulterior objects in view, and afforded an earnest but only a partial co-operation in the expedition. The distance which separated the different commands, the impossibility of establishing necessary communications between them, the absence of a general authority to command them, the time that was required for the transmission of orders from Washington, and the necessity of immediate action on account of the condition of the rivers and operations contemplated for the armies elsewhere, gave rise to embarrassments in the organization of forces and in the execution of orders which could not be overcome.

In the instructions I received from the Government it was left to my discretion whether or not I would join in this expedition, but I was directed to communicate with General Sherman and General Steele and Admiral Porter upon the subject. I expressed the satis-

faction I should find in co-operating with them in a movement deemed of so much importance by the Government, to which my own command was unequal, and my belief that *with the forces designated* it would be entirely successful. Having received from them similar assurances, both my discretion and my authority, so far as the organization of the expedition was concerned, were at an end. The disposition of the enemy's forces at that time, according to the best information that could be obtained, was as follows: Magruder had about 20,000 men of all arms, of which 15,000 were serviceable. The main body covered Galveston and Houston from an anticipated movement from Matagorda Peninsula, still held by our troops. Walker's division, numbering 7,000 men, were upon the Atchafalaya and Red Rivers, from Opelousas to Fort De Russy; Mouton's division, between the Black and Washita Rivers, from Red River to Monroe, numbering 6,000 men; while Price, with two heavy divisions of infantry, estimated at 5,000, and a large cavalry force, estimated at from 7,000 to 10,000, held the country from Monroe to Camden and Arkadelphia, confronting Steele. Magruder could spare 10,000 of his force to resist an attack from the east, leaving his fortifications well garrisoned on the coast, while Price could furnish at least an additional 5,000 from the north, making a formidable army of from 25,000 to 30,000 men, equal to any forces that could be brought against them, even with the most perfect unity and co-operation of commands. This estimate of the strength of the enemy was given in my dispatch of February 2, but was thought, upon information received by the Government, to be exaggerated.

The defenses of the enemy consisted of a series of works covering the approaches to Galveston and Houston from the south, the defenses of Galveston Bay, Sabine Pass, and Sabine River, Fort De Russy, a formidable work located 3 miles from Marksville for the defense of the Red River, and extensive and formidable works at Trinity, the junction of the Tensas and Washita at Camden, commanding approaches from the north. To meet these forces of the enemy it was proposed to concentrate, in some general plan of operations, 15,000 of the troops under command of General Steele, a detachment of 10,000 from the command of General Sherman, and a force from 15,000 to 17,000 men from the Army of the Gulf, making an army of 35,000 to 37,000 men of all arms, with such gun-boats as the Navy Department should order. Orders were given to my command at once to suspend operations at Galveston, and vigorous preparations were made for the new campaign. Having been charged by the President with duties not immediately connected with military operations, but which were deemed important and required my personal attention at New Orleans, the organization of the troops of my command assigned to the expedition was intrusted to Maj. Gen. W. B. Franklin. The main body of his command, consisting of the Nineteenth Corps (except Grover's division at Madisonville, which was to join him) and one division of the Thirteenth Corps, under General Ransom, were at this time on Berwick Bay, between Berwick City and Franklin, on the Bayou Teche, directly on the line of march for Alexandria and Shreveport. Small garrisons were left at Brownsville and Matagorda Bay in Texas (positions which, under instructions from the President and subsequently from Lieutenant-General Grant, were not to be abandoned), at New Orleans, and at Port Hudson, which was threatened by a vigorous and active enemy; smaller garrisons at Baton Rouge and

Donaldsonville, on the river, and at Pensacola and Key West, on the coast, constituted the balance of forces under my command.

It had been arranged that the troops concentrated at Franklin should move for the Red River on the 7th of March, to meet the forces of General Sherman at Alexandria on the 17th, but for causes stated by General Franklin their march was delayed until the 13th, at which time the advance under General A. L. Lee left Franklin, the whole column following soon after and arriving at Alexandria, the cavalry on the 19th and the infantry on the 25th.

On the 13th of March, 1864, one division of the Sixteenth Corps, under Brigadier-General Mower, and one division of the Seventeenth Corps, under Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith, the whole under command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, landed at Simsport, on the Atchafalaya, and proceeded at once toward Fort De Russy, carrying it by assault at 4.30 p. m. on the afternoon of the 14th. Two hundred and sixty prisoners and 10 heavy guns were captured. Our loss was slight. The troops and transports, under General A. J. Smith, and the Marine Brigade, under General Ellet, with the gun-boats, moved to Alexandria, which was occupied without opposition on the 16th of the same month. General Lee, of my command, arrived at Alexandria on the morning of the 19th. The enemy in the mean time continued his retreat through Cheneyville, in the direction of Shreveport.

Officers of my staff were at Alexandria on the 19th, and I made my headquarters there on the 24th, the forces under General Franklin arriving on the 25th and 26th of March; but as the stage of the water in Red River was too low to admit the passage of the gun-boats or transports over the falls, the troops encamped near Alexandria, General Smith and his command moving forward 21 miles to Bayou Rapides, above Alexandria. There was but 6 feet of water in the channel, while 7½ was necessary for the second-class and 10 feet for the first-class gun-boats. The river is narrow, the channel tortuous, changing with every rise, making its navigation more difficult and dangerous probably than any of the Western rivers, while pilots for the transports were reluctant to enter Government service for this campaign. The first gun-boat was unable to cross the rapids until the 26th; others crossed on the 28th, with some transports, and others still on the 2d and 3d of April, the passage having been made with difficulty and danger, occupying several days. Several gun-boats and transports, being unable then to ascend the river, remained at Alexandria or returned to the Mississippi.

While at Alexandria Major-General McPherson, commanding at Vicksburg, called for the immediate return of the Marine Brigade—a part of General Smith's command—to protect the Mississippi, for which service it had been specially organized. The transports of this brigade were unable to pass above Alexandria; the hospital-boat Woodford had been wrecked on the rapids in attempting the passage up. The troops were suffering from small-pox, which pervaded all the transports, and they were reported in condition of partial mutiny. It was not supposed at that time that a depot or garrison at Alexandria would be required, and this command, being without available land or water transportation, was permitted to return to the Mississippi, in compliance with the demands of General McPherson. This reduced the strength of the advancing column about 3,000 men.

The condition of the river and the inability of the transports to pass the falls made it necessary to establish a depot of supplies at

Alexandria and a line of wagon transportation from the steamers below to those above the falls. This was a departure from the plan of the campaign, which did not contemplate a post or depot at any point on Red River, and involved the necessity of leaving a division at Alexandria for the purpose of protecting the depot, transports, and supplies. Brig. Gen. C. Grover was placed in command of the post, and his division left for its defense. This reduced the force of the advancing column about 3,000 men.

While at Alexandria, on the 21st instant, a movement was organized against the enemy posted at Henderson's Hill, 25 miles in advance. The expedition consisted of three brigades of General A. J. Smith's command and a brigade of cavalry of the Nineteenth Corps, under command of Colonel Lucas, of the Sixteenth Indiana Volunteers, the whole under command of Brigadier-General Mower, of the Sixteenth Corps. The enemy was surprised, losing 250 prisoners, 200 horses, and 4 guns with their caissons. Col. H. B. Sargent, of my staff, was severely wounded in this action, and disabled from service during the campaign. This affair reflected the highest credit upon the officers and men engaged. Anticipating by a few days the passage of the gun-boats, the army marched from Alexandria for Natchitoches, 80 miles distant by land, reaching that point on the 2d and 3d of April. The enemy continued his retreat, skirmishing sharply with the advanced guard, but offering no serious resistance to our advance. The shortest and only practicable road from Natchitoches to Shreveport was the stage road through Pleasant Hill and Mansfield (distance 100 miles), through a barren, sandy country, with little water and less forage, the greater portion an unbroken pine forest.

A reconnaissance from Natchitoches on the 2d of April, under command of General Lee, discovered the enemy in force at Pleasant Hill, 36 miles distant, and established the fact that a portion of Green's command had arrived from Texas, and were then confronting us. Prisoners captured from Price's command indicated (what had been feared from the loss of time at Alexandria) a concentration of the entire available force of the enemy, numbering, according to the statements of prisoners and intercepted letters, about 25,000 men, with seventy-six guns. The river was perceptibly falling, and the larger gun-boats were unable to pass Grand Ecore. The troops, under command of General A. J. Smith, had hitherto moved in transports by the river, now marched by land from Natchitoches, with the exception of one division of the Seventeenth Corps, 2,500 men, under Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith, which, by order of General A. J. Smith, continued its movements by the river, in company with the fleet, for the protection of the transports. The arrangement of land transportation for this portion of the column, the replenishing of supply trains from the transports, and the distribution of rations to the troops were made at this point, but the fleet was unable to ascend the river until the 7th of April. The condition of the river would have justified the suspension of the movement altogether at either point, except for the anticipation of such a change as to render it navigable. Upon this subject the counsel of the naval officers was implicitly followed.

On the 4th of April, Col. O. P. Gooding, commanding a brigade of cavalry engaged upon a reconnaissance north of Red River, encountered Harrison's command, 1,500 strong, in which the enemy was defeated with considerable loss. Our loss was about 40 in killed,

wounded, and missing. The enemy's repulse was decisive. The army was put in motion for Shreveport, via Pleasant Hill and Mansfield, April 6. General Lee, with the cavalry division, led the advance, followed by a detachment of two divisions of the Thirteenth Corps, under General Ransom; First Division, Nineteenth Corps, under General Emory, and a brigade of colored troops under command of Colonel Dickey, the whole under the immediate command of Major-General Franklin. The detachments of the Sixteenth Army Corps, under command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, followed on the 7th, and a division of the Seventeenth Army Corps, under Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith, accompanying Admiral Porter on the river as a guard for the transports. The fleet was directed to Loggy Bayou, opposite Springfield, where it was expected communications would be established with the land forces at Sabine Cross-Roads, a distance of 54 miles by land from Grand Ecore, and 100 miles by water.

I remained with a portion of my staff to superintend the departure of the river and land forces from Grand Ecore until the morning of the 7th and then rode rapidly forward, reaching the head of the column at Pleasant Hill the same evening, where the main body encamped. General Smith's command was at the rear of the column on the march, but passed the negro brigade on the route to Pleasant Hill. A very heavy rain fell all day on the 7th, which greatly impeded the movement of the rear of the column, making the road almost impassable for troops, trains, or artillery. The storm did not reach the head of the column. In passing the troops from Natchitoches to Pleasant Hill I endeavored as much as possible to accelerate their movements. The enemy offered no opposition to their march on the 6th. On the 7th, the advance drove a small force to Pleasant Hill, and from there to Wilson's farm, 3 miles beyond, where a sharp fight occurred with the enemy posted in a very strong position, from which they were driven with serious loss and pursued to Saint Patrick's Bayou, near Carroll's Mill, about 9 miles from Pleasant Hill, where our forces bivouacked for the night. We sustained in this action a loss of 14 men killed, 39 wounded, and 9 missing. We captured many prisoners and the enemy sustained severe losses in killed and wounded. During the action General Lee sent to General Franklin for re-enforcements, and a brigade of infantry was sent forward, but the firing having ceased it was withdrawn. The officers and men fought with great spirit in this affair. At daybreak on the 8th, General Lee, to whose support a brigade of the Thirteenth Corps, under Colonel Landram, had been sent by my order, advanced upon the enemy, drove him from his position on the opposite side of Saint Patrick's Bayou, and pursued him to Sabine Cross-Roads, about 3 miles from Mansfield. The advance was steady but slow, and the resistance of the enemy stubborn. He was only driven from his defensive positions on the road by artillery. At noon on the 8th, another brigade of the Thirteenth Corps arrived at the cross-roads under Brigadier-General Ransom to relieve the First Brigade.

The infantry moved from Pleasant Hill at daybreak on the 8th, the head of the column halting at Saint Patrick's Bayou in order that the rear might come up. I passed General Franklin's headquarters at 10 a. m., giving directions to close up the column as speedily as possible, and rode forward to ascertain the condition of affairs at the front, where I arrived between 1 and 2 o'clock. General Ransom arrived nearly at the same time, with the Second Brigade, Thirteenth Corps, which was under his command in the action at the

cross-roads. I found the troops in line of battle, the skirmishers sharply engaged, the main body of the enemy posted on the crest of a hill in thick woods on both sides of a road leading over the hill to Mansfield on our line of march. It was apparent that the enemy was in much stronger force than at any previous point on the march, and being confirmed in this opinion by General Lee, I sent to General Franklin, immediately upon my arrival, a statement of the facts and orders to hurry forward the infantry with all possible dispatch, directing General Lee at the same time to hold his ground steadily, but not advance until re-enforcements should arrive. Our forces were for a long time stationary, with some skirmishing on the flanks. It soon became apparent that the entire force of the enemy was in our front. Several officers were sent to General Franklin to hurry forward the column. Skirmishing was incessant during the afternoon. At 4.30 p. m. the enemy made a general attack all along the lines, but with great vigor upon our right flank. It was resisted with resolute determination by our troops, but overpowering numbers compelled them, after resisting the successive charges of the enemy in front and on the flank, to fall back from their position to the woods in rear of the open field, which they occupied, retreating in good order. The enemy pressed with great vigor upon the flanks, as well as in front, for the purpose of getting to the rear, but were repulsed in this attempt by our cavalry.

At the line of woods a new position was assumed, supported by the Third Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, under General Cameron, which reached this point about 5 p. m., and formed in line of battle under the direction of Major-General Franklin, who accompanied its advance. The enemy attacked this second line with great impetuosity and overpowering numbers, turning both flanks and advancing heavily upon the center. The assault was resisted with gallantry, but the troops, finding the enemy in the rear, were compelled to yield the ground and fall steadily back. The road was badly obstructed by the supply train of the cavalry division, which prevented the retreat of both men and artillery. We lost ten of the guns of Ransom's division in consequence of the position of the train, which prevented their withdrawal. Repeated efforts were made to reform the troops and resist the advance of the enemy, but though their progress was checked, it was without permanent success.

Brig. Gen. W. H. Emory, commanding First Division, Nineteenth Corps, had been early notified of the condition of affairs, and directed to advance as rapidly as possible and form a line of battle in the strongest position he could select, to support the troops in retreat and check the advance of the enemy. The order to advance found him 7 miles to the rear of the first battle-ground. He assumed a position at Pleasant Grove, about 3 miles from the cross-roads, on the edge of the woods commanding an open field, sloping to the front. The One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey commanding, were deployed as skirmishers and ordered to the foot of the hill, upon the crest of which the line was formed to cover the rear of the retreating forces, to check the pursuit of the enemy, and give time for the formation of the troops.

General Dwight, commanding First Brigade, formed his troops across the road upon which the enemy was moving, commanding the open field in front. The Third Brigade, Colonel Benedict commanding, formed to the left, and the Second Brigade, General McMillan,

in reserve. The line was scarcely formed when the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers were attacked and driven in. The right being threatened, a portion of McMillan's brigade formed on the right of General Dwight. The fire of our troops was reserved until the enemy was at close quarters, when the whole line opened upon them with most destructive volleys of musketry. The action lasted an hour and a half. The enemy was repulsed with very great slaughter. During the fight a determined effort was made to turn our left flank, which was defeated. Prisoners reported the loss of the enemy in officers and men to be very great. General Mouton was killed in the first onset. Their attack was made with great desperation, apparently with the idea that the dispersion of our forces at this point would end the campaign, and with the aid of the steadily falling river leave the fleet of transports and gun-boats in their hands or compel their destruction. Nothing could surpass in impetuosity the assault of the enemy but the inflexible steadiness and valor of our troops. The First Division of the Nineteenth Corps, by its great bravery in this action, saved the army and navy. But for this successful resistance to the attack of the enemy at Pleasant Grove, the renewed attack of the enemy with increased force could not have been successfully resisted at Pleasant Hill on the 9th of April. We occupied both battle-grounds at night.

From Pleasant Grove, where this action occurred, to Pleasant Hill was 15 miles. It was certain that the enemy, who was within the reach of re-enforcements, would renew the attack in the morning, and it was wholly uncertain whether the command of General Smith could reach the position we held in season for a second engagement. For this reason the army toward morning fell back to Pleasant Hill, General Emory covering the rear, burying the dead, bringing off the wounded, and all the material of the army. It arrived there at 8.30 on the morning of the 9th, effecting a junction with the forces of General Smith and the colored brigade under Colonel Dickey, which had reached that point the evening previous.

Early on the 9th, the troops were prepared for action, the movements of the enemy indicating that he was on our rear. A line of battle was formed in the following order: First Brigade, Nineteenth Corps, on the right, resting on a ravine; Second Brigade in the center, and Third Brigade on the left. The center was strengthened by a brigade of General Smith's forces, whose main force was held in reserve. The enemy moved toward our right flank. The Second Brigade withdrew from the center to the support of the First Brigade. The brigade in support of the center moved up into position, and another of General Smith's brigades was posted to the extreme left position on the hill, in echelon to the rear of the left main line.

Light skirmishing occurred during the afternoon. Between 4 and 5 o'clock it increased in vigor, and about 5 p. m., when it appeared to have nearly ceased, the enemy drove in our skirmishers and attacked in force, his first onset being against the left. He advanced in two oblique lines, extending well over toward the right of the Third Brigade, Nineteenth Corps. After a determined resistance this part of the line gave way and went slowly back to the reserves. The First and Second Brigades were soon enveloped in front, right, and rear. By skillful movements of General Emory the flanks of the two brigades, now bearing the brunt of the battle, were covered. The enemy pursued the brigades, passing the left and center, until he approached the reserves under General Smith, when he was met

by a charge led by General Mower and checked. The whole of the reserves were now ordered up, and in turn we drove the enemy, continuing the pursuit until night compelled us to halt.

The battle of the 9th was desperate and sanguinary. The defeat of the enemy was complete, and his loss in officers and men more than double that sustained by our forces. There was nothing in the immediate position or condition of the two armies to prevent a forward movement the next morning, and orders were given to prepare for an advance. The train, which had been turned to the rear on the day of the battle, was ordered to reform and advance at daybreak. I communicated this purpose at the close of the day to General A. J. Smith, who expressed his concurrence therein. But representations subsequently received from General Franklin and all the general officers of the Nineteenth Corps, as to the condition of their respective commands for immediate active operations against the enemy, caused a suspension of this order, and a conference of the general officers was held in the evening, in which it was determined, upon the urgent recommendation of all the general officers above named, and with the acquiescence of General Smith, to retire upon Grand Ecore the following day. The reasons urged for this course by the officers commanding the Nineteenth and Thirteenth Corps were, first, that the absence of water made it absolutely necessary to advance or retire without delay. General Emory's command had been without rations for two days, and the train, which had been turned to the rear during the battle, could not be put in condition to move forward upon the single road through dense woods, in which it stood, without difficulty and loss of time. It was for the purpose of communicating with the fleet at Springfield Landing from the Sabine Cross-Roads to the river, as well as to prevent the concentration of the Texan troops with the enemy at Mansfield, that we had pushed for the early occupation of that point. Considering the difficulty with which the gun-boats passed Alexandria and Grand Ecore, there was every reason to believe that the navigation of the river would be found impracticable. A squadron of cavalry, under direction of Mr. Young, who had formerly been employed in the surveys of this country and was now connected with the engineer department, which had been sent upon a reconnaissance to the river, returned to Pleasant Hill on the day of the battle with the report that they had not been able to discover the fleet nor learn from the people its passage up the river. (The report of General T. Kilby Smith, commanding the river forces, states that the fleet did not arrive at Loggy Bayou until 2 p. m. on the 10th of April, two days after the battle at Sabine Cross-Roads.) This led to the belief that the low water had prevented the advance of the fleet. The condition of the river, which had been steadily falling since our march from Alexandria, rendered it very doubtful, if the fleet ascended the river, whether it could return from any intermediate point, and probable, if not certain, that if it reached Shreveport it would never escape without a rise of the river, of which all hopes began to fail. The forces designated for this campaign numbered 42,000 men. Less than half that number was actually available for service against the enemy during its progress.

The distance which separated General Steele's command from the line of our operations (nearly 200 miles) rendered his movements of little moment to us or to the enemy, and reduced the strength of

the fighting column to the extent of his force, which was expected to be from 10,000 to 15,000 men. The depot at Alexandria, made necessary by the impracticable navigation, withdrew from our forces 3,000 men under General Grover. The return of the Marine Brigade to the defense of the Mississippi, upon the demand of Major-General McPherson, and which could not pass Alexandria without its steamers nor move by land for want of land transportation, made a further reduction of 3,000 men. The protection of the fleet of transports against the enemy on both sides of the river made it necessary for General A. J. Smith to detach General T. Kilby Smith's division of 2,500 men from the main body for that duty. The army train required a guard of 500 men. These several detachments, which it was impossible to avoid, and the distance of General Steele's command, which it was not in my power to correct, reduced the number of troops that we were able at any point to bring into action from 42,000 men to about 20,000. The losses sustained in the very severe battles of the 7th, 8th, and 9th of April amounted to about 3,969 men, and necessarily reduced our active forces to that extent.

The enemy, superior to us in numbers in the outset, by falling back was able to recover from his great losses by means of re-enforcements, which were within his reach as he approached his base of operations, while we were growing weaker as we departed from ours. We had fought the battle at Pleasant Hill with about 15,000 against 22,000 men and won a victory, which for these reasons we were unable to follow up. Other considerations connected with the actual military condition of affairs afforded additional reasons for the course recommended. Between the commencement of the expedition and the battle of Pleasant Hill a change had occurred in the general command of the army, which caused a modification of my instructions in regard to this expedition.

Lieutenant-General Grant, in a dispatch dated the 15th March, which I received on the 27th March, at Alexandria, eight days before we reached Grand Ecore, by special messenger, gave me the following instructions :

> Should you find that the taking of Shreveport will occupy ten or fifteen days more time than General Sherman gave his troops to be absent from their command you will send them back at the time specified in his note of (blank date) March, *even if it should lead to the abandonment of the main object of the expedition.* Should it prove successful, hold Shreveport and Red River with such force as you deem necessary and return the balance of your troops to the neighborhood of New Orleans.

These instructions, I was informed, were given for the purpose of having "all parts of the army, or rather all armies, act as much in concert as possible," and with a view to a movement in the spring campaign against Mobile, which was certainly to be made "if troops enough could be obtained without embarrassing other movements ; in which event New Orleans would be the point of departure for such an expedition." A subsequent dispatch, though it did not control, fully justified my action, repeated these general views and stated that the commanding general "would much rather the Red River expedition had never been begun that that you should be detained one day beyond the 1st of May in commencing the movement east of the Mississippi."

The limitation of time referred to in these dispatches was based upon an opinion which I had verbally expressed to General Sherman at New Orleans, that General Smith could be spared in thirty

days after we reached Alexandria, but it was predicted upon the expectation that the navigation of the river would be unobstructed; that we should advance without delay at Alexandria, Grand Ecore, or elsewhere on account of low water, and that the forces of General Steele were to co-operate with us effectively at some point on Red River, near Natchitoches or Monroe. It was never understood that an expedition that involved on the part of my command a land march of nearly 400 miles into the enemy's country, and which terminated at a point which we might not be able to hold, either on account of the strength of the enemy or the difficulties of obtaining supplies, was to be limited to thirty days. The condition of our forces, and the distance and difficulties attending the further advance into the enemy's country after the battles of the 8th and 9th against an enemy superior in numbers to our own, rendered it probable that we could not occupy Shreveport within the time specified, and certain that without a rise in the river the troops necessary to hold it against the enemy would be compelled to evacuate it for want of supplies, and impossible that the expedition should return in any event to New Orleans in time to co-operate in the general movements of the army contemplated for the spring campaign. It was known at this time that the fleet could not repass the rapids at Alexandria, and it was doubtful, if the fleet reached any point above Grand Ecore, whether it would be able to return. By falling back to Grand Ecore we should be able to ascertain the condition of the fleet, the practicability of continuing the movement by the river, reorganize a part of the forces that had been shattered in the battles of the 7th, 8th, and 9th, possibly ascertain the position of General Steele and obtain from him the assistance expected for a new advance north of the river or upon its southern bank, and perhaps obtain definite instructions from the Government as to the course to be pursued.

Upon these general considerations, and without reference to the actual condition of the respective armies, at 12 o'clock midnight on the 9th I countermanded the order for the return of the train, and directed preparations to be made for the return of the army to Grand Ecore. The dead were buried and the wounded brought in from the field of battle and placed in the most comfortable hospitals that could be provided, and surgeons and supplies furnished for them. A second squadron of cavalry was sent, under direction of Mr. Young, of the engineer department, to inform the fleet of our retrograde movement and to direct its return, if it had ascended the river, and on the morning of the 10th the army leisurely returned to Grand Ecore. The wounded were immediately visited by Dr. Sanger, who took with him clothing, rations, medicines, and other supplies, and reported them in comfortable condition. The fleet sailed from Grand Ecore on the 7th and reached its destination at Loggy Bayou on the evening of the 10th, one day after the battle at Pleasant Hill and two days after the engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads. General T. Kilby Smith received a verbal message the evening of the 10th, and on the morning of the 11th written orders to return. The transports were in a crippled condition, rudders unshipped and wheels broken. The enemy attacked the fleet on its return near Pleasant Hill Landing on the 12th, with a force of 2,500 cavalry, a strong reserve infantry, and a battery of six guns, under General Green, but the troops, protected by cotton bales and bales of hay, with the gun-boats, kept up a deadly fire, and drove the enemy from the river. For two miles the bank was strewn with the wounded and dead.

Among other rebels officers killed was General Green, who was left dead upon the field. The troops of the transports saw him fall, and claim that his death was the work of their artillery, the gun-boats and transports all firing at the same time. The enemy, under Liddell, who had occupied the north bank of the river with 2,500 men, attacked the fleet on the 13th, but was driven back with loss.

The navigation up and down the river was intricate and difficult, and the steamers were frequently aground. Several of the boats were laden with ammunition and ordnance stores, but the energy of the officers and men brought off every boat. The only loss in stores was a hundred sacks of oats, thrown overboard for the relief of a steamer aground. They reached Campti on the 14th, with a loss of 1 man killed and 18 wounded, where they met a force from the army sent to their assistance, and reached Grand Ecore on the 15th without further obstruction.

General T. Kilby Smith, to whose courtesy I am indebted for all the official information I have received of this part of the expedition, mentions with commendation Maj. D. C. Houston, of the engineers, who had in charge the ordnance stores, and Lieut. Col. W. S. Abert, officers of my staff, who accompanied him, and also officers and men of his own command and masters of transport steamers. General Smith, who commanded the land forces and transports, is entitled to the highest commendation for the energy, skill, and success with which he managed this most difficult affair. Lines of defense were established at Grand Ecore the 12th of April, and orders given to attack the enemy if he approached. A pontoon bridge was thrown across the river during the night. Our pickets were driven in on the 13th, but the enemy appeared, upon a reconnaissance made in force, to have gone below for the purpose either of attacking our troops at Alexandria or occupying Monett's Bluff, on Cane River. On the same day General Smith crossed the river with two brigades, two batteries, and a strong cavalry force, to aid the fleet still above Grand Ecore. Dispatches were sent to General Steele informing him of the condition of affairs, and requesting him to join us at some point on the river. Orders were sent to New Orleans for re-enforcements, and the lieutenant-general commanding the Army was informed of the condition of affairs by telegraph and of my intention to advance upon Shreveport, if General Steele could come to our assistance, and my determination not to withdraw without orders.

The fleet returned on the 15th in safety, without loss of vessels or material of war. Admiral Porter, with whom I had a conference on his arrival at Grand Ecore, advised against any further attempt to advance without a rise of the river, and his counsel was followed. The river had been steadily falling. Supplies were brought up to Grand Ecore with very great difficulty. It was found that two of the gun-boats could not go below Grand Ecore, and it was now certain that the fleet could not pass the falls at Alexandria. Lieutenant-Commander Selfridge, left in command of the fleet by the admiral, who had gone to Alexandria, addressed to me a dispatch, dated 17th of April, stating that he had been informed the army was to withdraw immediately, and that it would be impossible in that case to get the gun-boats down the river. I informed him at once that the army had no intention of withdrawing from that position; that I had sent to New Orleans for troops, and by a special messenger to General Steele, urging his direct co-operation, and that

until it was definitely ascertained that his assistance would fail us, and that my force would be insufficient to advance farther upon this line against the enemy, who appeared to be in full force, I should entertain no thought of a retrograde movement, and never if it left the navy in any danger. No such purpose was then entertained, and until I received information in reply to my dispatches it was my purpose to maintain my position. A copy of this letter is appended to this report.

The next day I received instructions from Lieutenant-General Grant (to which I have referred) that if my return to New Orleans was delayed one day beyond the 1st of May, when it would be necessary for my command to co-operate with other armies in the spring campaign, it would have been better that the expedition had never been attempted. These instructions, with the fact that the river was not likely to rise, the report received by Capt. R. T. Dunham that General Steele could not co-operate with us, and that the difficulty of passing the falls at Alexandria was hourly increasing, if the passage was not even then impossible, led me to change my determination. It was not, however, until the entire fleet was free, transports and gun-boats, and that Admiral Porter, in charge of the Eastport, which had been aground several miles below Grand Ecore for several days, had sent me word by Col. W. S. Abert (whose statement is hereto appended) that she was clear and further protection unnecessary, that orders were given the 21st April to turn the supply trains in the direction of Alexandria.

The army moved on the morning of the 22d of April, every vessel having preceded both the marching orders and the movements of the army. Any statement from whatever source that the army contemplated moving from Grand Ecore toward Alexandria against the advice or without the approval of the naval officers in command, or until after the departure of every vessel on the river, is without the slightest color of truth. In my interview with Admiral Porter, on the 15th of April, he expressed the utmost confidence that the river would rise, and gave me no intimation of his leaving Grand Ecore, nor of the proposed withdrawal of his vessels, or of his apprehensions of the retreat of the army. I gave him at that time distinct information of my plans, which were to advance. This fact was communicated to Lieutenant-Commander Selfridge, in my letter of the 17th of April. The admiral expressed the same confidence in the rise of the river to officers of the army, who from long experience in the Red River country were equally confident that it would not rise. The difficulties attending the voyage of the Eastport were incident to the condition of the river, for which the army was in no wise responsible. I had offered every assistance possible, and did not leave this position while any aid was suggested or required. Colonel Bailey, after consultation with the general officers of the army, offered to float the Eastport over the bars by the construction of wing-dams, similar to those afterward built at Alexandria, but the assistance was declined. No counsel from army officers was regarded in nautical affairs.

The army marched from Grand Ecore on the morning of the 22d of April, having been detained there by the condition of the navy ten days, to prevent the occupation of Monett's Bluff, on Cane River, a strong position, commanding the only road leading across the river to Alexandria, or to prevent the concentration of the enemy's forces at that point. If it was in his possession it became

necessary to accomplish the evacuation without his knowledge, and to prevent his strengthening the natural defenses of the position by the rapidity of our march. The conflagration of a portion of the town at the hour appointed for marching partially frustrated the first object, but the second was fully accomplished.

The army marched from Grand Ecore to Cane River on the 20th [22d ?] of April, a distance of 40 miles, and moved upon the position held by the enemy the 23d of April before daybreak. About 8,000 men and sixteen guns, under command of General Bee, were found in possession of the bluff on the opposite side of the river, who were evidently surprised at the unexpected presence of our army, but ready to dispute our only passage toward Alexandria. At daybreak one division of the Nineteenth and Thirteenth Corps each, the cavalry commanded by General Arnold, and the artillery commanded by Captain Closson, the whole under command of General W. H. Emory, were ordered forward to the river for the purpose of forcing this position. The pickets of the enemy were encountered on the west side of the river and quickly driven across, but the main position was found to be too strong to be carried by direct attack. A reconnoitering party, under Colonel Bailey, Fourth Wisconsin Volunteers, sent to ascertain the practicability of crossing the river below the ferry toward Red River, on the morning of the 23d reported that the river was not fordable below the ferry, and that, owing to the impassable swamps on one side and the high bluffs on the other, it would not be possible to cross Cane River at any point below the ferry. If we failed to dislodge the enemy at the ferry the only alternative open to us was to attempt a crossing to the north side of Red River, an exceedingly difficult and dangerous movement. At the same time a force, under command of General H. W. Birge, consisting of his own command, the Third Brigade of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, Colonel Fessenden commanding, and General Cameron's division, Thirteenth Corps, were ordered to cross the river 3 miles above the ferry, and, turning the left flank of the enemy, carry the heights in reverse if possible. Upon the success of this movement depended the passage of the river by the army. The route traveled by General Birge's command was intersected by bayous, swamps, and almost impenetrable woods. This force reached its position late in the afternoon. To accomplish the purpose in view it became necessary to carry two strong positions held by pickets and skirmishers before the enemy was encountered in force on the crest of a hill, commanding an open field, over which our troops were compelled to cross in making the attack. The Third Brigade [First Division], Nineteenth Corps, Colonel Fessenden commanding, carried this position, which was defended with vigor, by assault. Its occupation compelled the retreat of the enemy from the bluffs commanding the ferry and ford. Our loss in this most brilliant and successful affair was about 200 killed and wounded. Colonel Fessenden, who led his command with great gallantry, was severely wounded.

General Birge, as in all actions in which he has been engaged, deserved and received the highest commendation. Lieut. William S. Beebe, of the ordnance department, and Mr. Young, of the engineer department, both volunteers, were conspicuous in the fight. Mr. Young was twice wounded, and died in New Orleans in July of the injuries received in this battle.

The attack on the rear of the enemy's position, covering the line of the enemy's retreat, failed in consequence of the difficulties

encountered in the march and the late hour at which our troops gained their position. The enemy was thus enabled to escape with his artillery by the Fort Jesup road to Texas. The main body of the army had moved from Cloutierville at 4.30 a. m. on the 23d to the river. They drove in the enemy's pickets 3 miles in advance of the river, and formed a line of battle in front of the enemy's position, while General Birge was moving upon the enemy's left flank. The enemy opened with a heavy cannonade from his batteries, which was returned by our artillery with spirit and effect. The fire was continued at intervals during the morning, but the troops were held in reserve for the purpose of forcing the passage of the river at the moment that General Birge commenced his attack on the right. The action lasted till dark, when the enemy retreated and the heights were occupied by our forces. General A. J. Smith's command had sharp skirmishing with the advance of the enemy in our rear on the 23d. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 24th, six guns were fired from the camp of the enemy in the rear. It was interpreted as a signal that they were ready for a combined attack, but the enemy in front had then been driven from the river and the contemplated movement upon our front and rear failed.

During the morning of the 23d, an effort had been made by a portion of the cavalry under Col. E. J. Davis to turn the right flank of the enemy's position by crossing the river below the ferry in the direction of Red River, which proved impracticable on account of impassable swamps. A sharp engagement occurred on the morning of the 24th, between the troops of General T. Kilby Smith and the enemy in the rear, which resulted in the repulse of the latter. Our loss was about 50 in this affair. Had the enemy concentrated his forces and fortified his position at Monett's Bluff we could not have forced him from it, and should have been compelled to accept the chances of crossing Red River above Cane River in the presence of the enemy on both sides of the river. Orders had been sent to General Grover to move with all his force upon Monett's Bluff, in the event of its being occupied by the enemy or our march seriously obstructed, and his troops were in readiness for this movement. The army marched from Monett's Bluff on the afternoon of the 24th of April, and established lines of defense at Alexandria on the 25th and 26th April.

In the twenty-four days intervening between the departure of the army from Alexandria and its return the battles of Wilson's Farm, Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Hill, Campti, Monett's Bluff, and several combats in the neighborhood of Grand Ecore, while we were in occupation of that point, had been fought. In every one of these engagements, except that at Sabine Cross-Roads, we had been successful. The failure to accomplish the main object of the expedition was due to other considerations than the actual superiority of the enemy in the field. In these operations, in which my own command had marched by land nearly 400 miles, the total loss sustained was 3,980 men, of whom 289 were killed, 1,541 wounded, and 2,150 missing. A large portion of the latter were captured and have been since exchanged, but a considerable portion returned to the army during its operations on Red River. No loss of artillery or of trains or any army material whatever was sustained, except that which occurred at Sabine Cross-Roads. We lost there Nims' battery and a section of the Missouri Howitzer Battery, 150 wagons, and 800 mules, captured by the enemy on account of the position of the

train near the field of battle. All the ammunition wagons were saved. The army had captured up to this time from the enemy 23 guns and 1,500 prisoners. His losses in killed, wounded, and prisoners, officers and men, were much greater than ours. Among the former were some of the most efficient rebel commanders, whose loss can never be made good. Up to this time no other loss of men or material had been sustained by our army. As soon as the lines of defense were completed preparations were made for the release of the fleet, which was then unable to pass below the falls. From the difficulty which the supply transports had encountered in passing the falls, it was known at Grand Ecore as early as the 15th of April that the navy could not go below, and the means for its release were freely discussed among officers of the army.

During the campaign at Port Hudson the steamers Starlight and Red Chief were captured by Grierson's (Illinois) cavalry, under command of Colonel Prince, in Thompson's Creek. The bed of the creek was nearly dry and the steamers were sunk several feet in the sand. After the capture of Port Hudson, Colonel Bailey constructed wing-dams, which by raising the water lifted the steamers from the sand and floated them out of the creek into the Mississippi. This incident naturally suggested the same works at Alexandria for the relief of the fleet. A survey was ordered for the purpose of determining what measures could be best undertaken. The engineers of the army had complete surveys of the falls, captured from the enemy during our occupation of Alexandria in 1863, at the commencement of the Port Hudson campaign. It was found, upon examining these charts and upon a survey of the river, that the channel was narrow and crooked, formed in solid rock, and that it would be wholly impracticable to deepen its bed. It was therefore determined to commence the construction of a dam to raise the river to such a height as to enable the vessels to float over the falls. This project was freely discussed by the engineers and officers of the army, and was generally believed to be practicable. Capt. J. C. Palfrey, who had made the survey, reported that in his judgment it was entirely feasible, and the only question made related to the time that might be required for so great a work.

The management of this enterprise was naturally intrusted to Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, Fourth Wisconsin Volunteers, who was by profession a civil engineer, familiar with works of that kind common to slackwater navigation upon all the Western rivers, and had successfully released the steamers from Thompson's Creek on the Mississippi. Colonel Bailey had suggested the practicability of the dam while we were at Grand Ecore, and had offered to release the Eastport when aground below Grand Ecore by the same means, which offer was declined. Material was collected during these preparations, and work commenced upon the dam on Sunday, May 1. Nearly the whole army was engaged at different times upon this work. The dam was completed on Sunday, May 8, and the gun-boats Osage, Hindman, and two others came over the rapids about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The water had been raised upon the dam for 1¼ miles about 7 feet, with a fall below the dam of about 6 feet, making in all a fall of about 13 feet above and below the falls. The pressure of the water at its completion was terrific. I went over the work at 11 o'clock on the evening of the 8th, with one of my staff officers, and felt that the pressure of the water was so great that it could not stand. I rode immediately to the point above where the fleet was anchored to ascer-

tain if they were ready to follow the four boats that had already passed the rapids. I reached the fleet about 12 midnight. Scarcely a man or a light was to be seen. It was perfectly apparent that the boats were not in condition to take advantage of the completion of the dam, and feeling that it could not stand another day, I wrote a note to Admiral Porter at 1 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, which was delivered in person at 2 a. m. by Col. J. G. Wilson, stating my belief as to the condition of the dam and fleet, and asking that measures should be taken to put the boats in condition to move over the rapids at the earliest possible moment in the morning.

A little after 5 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, I saw a part of the dam swept away. The four boats that had passed the rapids the afternoon before were able to pass below through the opening which the waters had made. Only one of the vessels above the falls, the Lexington, was ready to move when the dam gave way, and that came down after the break and passed the dam safely, with all the vessels that were below the rapids. Had the others been ready to move all would have passed the rapids and the dam safely on Monday. Until after the dam had been carried away no effort had been made to lessen the draught of the imprisoned vessels, by lightening them of cargo, armament, or plating. Before the second series of dams was completed a portion of the armament and the plating, materially lessening their draught and the depth of water required to float them, was removed.

Lieut. William S. Beebe, of the Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, superintended the removal of the heavy naval guns from above the rapids to a point below the dam by land, assisted by officers and soldiers of the army. The army immediately commenced the reconstruction of the dam. Finding it impossible to resist the current of the river entirely, the opening made by the flood was only partially closed, and eight or ten wing-dams were constructed on the right and left bank of the river, in accordance with the original plan, turning the current of water directly upon the channel and raising it at the different points sufficiently to allow the vessels to pass. This new work was completed on the 12th of May, and on the afternoon of that day all the boats passed below the rapids to the dam. At 6 o'clock in the evening the Mound City and Carondelet passed the dam. The other boats remained above until the morning of the 13th. The water upon the dam was steadily falling, but at 9 o'clock on the 13th all the boats had safely passed. Preparations had been made for the movement of the army the evening after the passage of the boats below the dam on the 12th, and after all were below on the 13th orders were given for the march.

The construction of the dam was exclusively the work of the army. But little aid or encouragement was rendered by officers of the navy, except by Lieut. A. R. Langthorne, commanding the Mound City, who assisted in setting the cribs, and was always ready to answer the call of the officers charged with the construction of the work. The soldiers labored sedulously and zealously night and day, in and out of the water, from the 1st to the 13th of May, inclusive, when the passage of the boats was completed.

Upon my arrival at Alexandria, on the 25th of April, I found Major-General Hunter with dispatches from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies, reaffirming instructions which I had received at Grand Ecore relating to the operations of the army elsewhere, and to the necessity of bringing the Shreveport campaign to an end

without delay. The only possible means of executing these peremptory orders had already been taken. General Hunter left on the 30th April, with dispatches to the lieutenant-general, giving a report of the condition of affairs; that the fleet could not pass the rapids; that there was no course for the army but to remain for its protection; that the enemy would concentrate all his forces at that point for the destruction of the army and the fleet, and that it was necessary to concentrate our troops west of the Mississippi at the same point by which the army and navy could be relieved and the forces of the enemy destroyed. Major-General McClernand, with the larger part of the forces recently at Matagorda Bay, which had been evacuated by order of Lieutenant-General Grant, dated March 31, arrived at Alexandria on the evening of the 29th of April. Brig. Gen. Fitz Henry Warren, left in command at Matagorda Bay, followed with the rest of the forces in Texas, except those on the Rio Grande, when the batteries of the enemy on the river near Marksville obstructed his passage. Not having sufficient force to dislodge the enemy, he seized Fort De Russy below the batteries, which he held until the passage of the fleet and army.

While engaged in the construction of the dam a dispatch was received from Major-General Halleck, dated April 30, as follows:

> Lieutenant-General Grant directs that orders heretofore given be so modified that no troops be withdrawn from operations against Shreveport and on Red River, and that operations there be continued under the officer in command until further orders.

This dispatch was not received until it was impossible to move either up or down the river from Alexandria. It was, of course, impracticable to execute these instructions.

Until the 4th of May communication with the Mississippi by the river was unobstructed. Lieut. William Simpson, of my staff, left by the gun-boat Signal with dispatches for Lieutenant-General Grant, Admiral Farragut, General Sherman, and General Rosecrans. The gun-boat Covington, having in convoy the transport Warner, accompanied the Signal. We received news on the morning of the 6th of the destruction of the gun-boats and the transport. The enemy had established a battery near Marksville, supported by a large infantry force. Communication with the Mississippi was closed from this date. About 400 men of the Fifty-sixth Ohio Volunteers were on board the Warner. A part of them joined our troops below, and a portion of them pierced the lines of the enemy and returned to Alexandria; about 150 were captured. Lieutenant Simpson was captured, but destroyed his dispatches. The City Belle, on her way to Alexandria with 425 men of the One hundred and twentieth Ohio Volunteers, was captured by the enemy; 200 of the troops escaped. The fleet passed below Alexandria on the 13th of May.

The army on its march from Alexandria did not encounter the enemy in force until near the town of Mansura. He was driven through the town in the evening of the 14th [?] of May, and at daybreak next morning our advance encountered his cavalry on the prairie east of the town. He fell back with steady and sharp skirmishing across the prairie to a belt of woods, which he occupied. The enemy's position covered three roads diverging from Mansura to the Atchafalaya. He manifested a determination here to obstinately resist our passage. The engagement, which lasted several hours, was confined chiefly to the artillery until our troops got pos-

session of the edge of the woods, first upon our left by General Emory, and subsequently on our right by General Smith, when he was driven from the field, after a sharp and decisive fight, with considerable loss.

The 16th [?] of May we reached Simsport, on the Atchafalaya. Being entirely destitute of any ordinary bridge material for the passage of this river (about 600 yards wide) a bridge was constructed of the steamers, under direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey. This work was not of the same magnitude, but was as important to the army as the dam at Alexandria was to the navy. It had the merit of being an entirely novel construction, no bridge of such magnitude having been constructed of similar materials. The bridge was completed at 1 o'clock on the 19th of May. The wagon train passed in the afternoon, and the troops the next morning, in better spirit and condition, as able and eager to meet the enemy as at any period of the campaign. The command of General A. J. Smith, which covered the rear of the army during the construction of the bridge and the passage of the army, had a severe engagement with the enemy under Polignac on the afternoon of the 19th [18th], at Yellow Bayou, which lasted several hours. Our loss was about 150 in killed and wounded; that of the enemy much greater, besides many prisoners who were taken by our troops.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby arrived at Simsport on the 19th May, and the next day assumed command of the troops as a portion of the forces of the Military Division of the West Mississippi, to the command of which he had been assigned. Rumors were circulated freely throughout the camp at Alexandria that upon the evacuation of the town it would be burned. To prevent this destruction of property, part of which belonged to loyal citizens, General Grover, commanding the post, was instructed to organize a thorough police, and to provide for its occupation by an armed force until the army had marched for Simsport. The measures taken were sufficient to prevent a conflagration in the manner in which it had been anticipated, but on the morning of the evacuation, while the army was in full possession of the town, a fire broke out in a building on the levee, which had been occupied by refugees or soldiers, in such a manner as to make it impossible to prevent a general conflagration. I saw the fire when it was first discovered. The ammunition and ordnance transports and the depot of ammunition on the levee were within a few yards of the fire. The boats were floated into the river and the ammunition moved from the levee with all possible dispatch. The troops labored with alacrity and vigor to suppress the conflagration, but owing to a high wind and the combustible material of the buildings it was found impossible to limit its progress, and a considerable portion of the town was destroyed.

On the 1st of April, two or three days before the army moved from Alexandria to Natchitoches, an election of delegates to the constitutional convention was held at Alexandria by request of citizens of the parish of Rapides. No officer or soldier interfered with or had any part whatever in this matter. It was left exclusively to the loyal citizens of the place. Three hundred votes were given in this election, which was a large majority of all the voting population in that parish. Fifteen hundred votes were a full representation of the people before the war. Nearly 500 men from this and neighboring parishes enlisted in the army as mounted scouts, and rendered efficient and valuable services during the campaign.

Under the general prize law the naval authorities upon their arrival at Alexandria commenced the capture of cotton on both sides of the river, extending their operations from 6 to 10 miles into the interior. Wagon trains were organized, cotton gins put in operation, and the business followed up with great vigor while the fleet lay at Alexandria. Some difficulty occurred with the marines, who insisted upon their right to pass the lines of the army, which was terminated by the advance of the army and navy to Grand Ecore.

I was informed by parties claiming property which had been taken by the naval authorities, to whom I referred them, that, upon application for relief, their property had been released to them by the commander of the fleet. The army did not enter into competition with the navy in the capture of this property.

In order to remove all the products of the country which might, under any circumstances, be used to aid the rebellion against the Government, General Grover, in command of the post of Alexandria, and the quartermaster of that post, upon the departure of the army from Alexandria, were directed to collect such property as should remain there after its departure and transmit it to the quartermaster at New Orleans, who was instructed to turn it over to the officers of the Treasury, to be disposed of according to the orders of the Government and the laws of Congress. Notice was also given to the supervising agent of the Treasury at New Orleans that no trade would be allowed with that portion of the State until it should be completely and permanently occupied by the army. No person was allowed to accompany the army upon this expedition as reporter, or for any other purpose, without a distinct and written declaration that no trade by private parties or for personal purposes would be permitted under any circumstances, and that no property on private account would be transported by public or private vessels to New Orleans, but that all property sent to New Orleans would be consigned to the chief quartermaster, and by him turned over to the Treasury agent and held subject to such claims and orders as should be approved by the Government at Washington. Previous to my departure from New Orleans, the chief quartermaster, Col. S. B. Holabird, had been instructed that no privileges would be given to any party whatever, under any circumstances, to trade in, to dispose of, or to transport private property; that all the property that came down from that country, so far as the army was concerned, would be turned over to him, and by him to the proper Treasury officers. The same information was given to the Treasury agent. No permission was given to any person to accompany the army except upon these express conditions, and then only to such persons whose public positions seemed to be a full guarantee against the abuse of the privilege, and whose requests could not be properly refused. They were given to reporters of the public press and to prominent officers of States whose troops were in the field. Upon representations made by officers of the Treasury Department at Alexandria that there would be difficulty in receiving such property except under the Treasury regulations of the 26th of January, 1864, those regulations were officially promulgated for that purpose at Alexandria and at New Orleans. These orders were strictly enforced by all officers connected with or representing the army. There was no permission whatever given to any person to trade, to dispose of, or transport private property. No privilege of this kind was recognized under any circumstances. Every dollar's worth of property that came into the hands of the army during this campaign

was either appropriated to its use in kind by the proper officers of the commissary and quartermaster's departments, receipts being given therefor, or transmitted to the chief quartermaster at New Orleans, and by him turned over to the Treasury agents, to be disposed of according to the laws of Congress and the orders of the Government. Where cotton or other property interfered with the transportation of any material of the army, or of refugees, negroes, or troops, upon the evacuation of the country, it was thrown from the boats and abandoned upon the river levee to the enemy.

I intend this statement to be as comprehensive upon the subject as language can make it, and to cover all possible methods, direct or indirect, by which officers or citizens, public or private parties, or any persons whatever, could evade or violate these orders on the river or at New Orleans, or appropriate by any means public or private property to private uses or personal advantage, or to deprive the Government or individuals of any property which, by any interpretation of military orders or public laws, could be considered as belonging justly and properly to them. General Grover, commanding the post, Col. S. B. Holabird, chief quartermaster at New Orleans, and Hon. B. F. Flanders, supervising special agent Treasury Department, will be able to account to the Government for public or private property coming into their hands during this campaign.

I was engaged upon the Gulf coast, hoping by the capture of Galveston and Mobile to put my command in readiness for an effective co-operation, by Mobile and the Alabama River, with General Sherman, precisely in accordance with the campaign suggested by the lieutenant-general commanding the armies in his dispatches of the 15th and 31st of March, when I received instructions to communicate with the admiral and the general officers commanding the fleet and forces of the upper Mississippi, upon the subject of the campaign against Shreveport. I immediately complied with these orders. They had received similar instructions, and in answer to my communications expressed their readiness and desire to enter upon the campaign. *With the forces proposed* and the co-operation of the fleet, its success was reasonably certain; under such circumstances I could not decline co-operation with them. I at once abandoned all other enterprises and gave my whole attention to this service. The first difficulty encountered was in the navigation of the river. Sixteen days' delay caused by the inability of the fleet to pass the rapids of Alexandria, and three days' delay at Grand Ecore in waiting the rise of the river, enabled the enemy to concentrate his forces and rendered impossible that celerity of movement by the army which the success of the expedition demanded. Eight days of the delay at Alexandria would have been attributable to the tardy organization and movements of Franklin's command, but the fleet was unable to pass the falls until eight days after his arrival at Alexandria. This delay was doubtless owing to the impracticable navigation of the river; but it is not improper to say that the forecast and diligence which are enforced upon all men in the daily affairs of life would have forbidden an attempt to force a fleet of so much importance to the free navigation of the Mississippi to a point from which it could never hope to escape, except upon the theory that the river ought to or might rise.

The movement of the navy, in a dispatch of Rear-Admiral D. D. Porter, to which the Secretary of the Navy has given official publication and sanction, is attributed to the "request" of General Banks,

who "deemed the co-operation of the gun-boats so essential to success that he (Porter) had to run some risks and make unusual exertions to get them over the falls." This implies that the responsibility of his action rests upon the army; but it is not consistent with the facts. The co-operation of the navy was an indispensable condition and basis of the expedition.

Major-General Halleck informed me, January 11, that he had been assured by the Navy Department that Admiral Porter would be prepared to co-operate with the army in its movements, and the admiral himself informed me, February 26, that he was "prepared to ascend Red River with a large fleet of gun-boats," and to co-operate with the army at any time when the water was high enough. The fleet was as necessary to the campaign as the army. Had it been left to my discretion, I should have reluctantly undertaken, in a campaign requiring but eight or ten light-draught gun-boats, to force twenty heavy iron-clads 490 miles upon a river proverbially as treacherous as the rebels who defended it, and which had given notice of its character by steadily falling when, as the admiral reports, "all other rivers were booming." There is a better reason for the disregard of the palpable difficulties of navigation than the overzealous counsel of army officers in nautical affairs.

In a subsequent dispatch Admiral Porter says that "all my vessels navigated the river to Grand Ecore with ease, and with some of them I reached Springfield Landing, the place designated for the gun-boats to meet the army. *My part was successfully accomplished;* the failure of the army to proceed and the retreat to Grand Ecore left me *almost* at the mercy of the enemy." The records of the campaign do not at all support the reckless and fiery ardor of this statement. The fleet did not reach the "place appointed" until two full days after the first decisive battle with the enemy. The admiral occupied four days in moving 104 miles on what he calls "a rising river," with "good water," to the place appointed. General T. Kilby Smith states that the fleet made 20 miles on the 7th, 57 miles on the 8th, 18 miles on the 9th, and 9 miles on the 10th of April; total, 104 miles. The failure of the fleet to move up the river with ordinary expedition, together with the fact that the gun-boats were unable to pass Grand Ecore until the 7th, justified the belief that its advance had been prevented by the low stage of water, and governed the army exclusively in its retrograde movement to Grand Ecore, as it did in every important operation of the campaign. The admiral's dispatch does not mention the fact that, in addition to the "mercy" of the enemy, he had the support of General T. Kilby Smith's division of 2,500 men, whose most gallant and honorable part in the preservation of the fleet of gun-boats and transports is not referred to in what the admiral calls "this curious affair between (the enemy's) infantry and gun-boats." In view of the published dispatches of Admiral Porter, it is proper for me to say that every position of difficulty in which the army was placed in this campaign was the immediate and direct consequence of delay in the operations of the navy. This may have been inevitable and entirely justifiable from the condition of the river. It is not my province to pass judgment upon its operations, but the fact remains, nevertheless.

During my term of service it has been an invariable rule of conduct, from which I have never departed, to forbear the expression of opinion or complaint upon the official action of others, but I feel it to be a solemn duty to say, in this official and formal manner, that

Admiral Porter's published official statements, relating to the Red River campaign, are at variance with the truth, of which there are many thousand living witnesses, and do foul injustice to the officers and soldiers of the army, living and dead, to whom the Navy Department owes exclusively the preservation and honor of its fleet.

The partial disintegration of the several commands assigned to this expedition was a cause of embarrassment, though not entirely of failure. The command of Major-General Steele, which I was informed by Major-General Sherman would be about 15,000 men, was in fact but 7,000, and operating upon a line several hundred miles distant, with purposes and results entirely unknown to me. February 5, I was informed by General Steele that if any advance was to be made it must be by the Washita and Red Rivers, and that he might be able to move his command by the way of Pine Bluff to Monroe for this purpose. This would have united our forces on Red River and insured the success of the campaign. The 28th of February he informed me that he could not move by the way of Monroe, and on the 4th of March, the day before my command was ordered to move, I was informed by General Sherman that he had written to General Steele to "push straight to Shreveport." March 5, I was informed by General Halleck that he had no information of General Steele's plans further than that he would be directed to facilitate my operations toward Shreveport. The 10th of March General Steele informed me that the objections to the route I wished him to take (by the way of Red River) were stronger than ever, and that he "would move with all his available force (about 7,000) to Washington, and thence to Shreveport."

I received information the 26th of March, dated the 5th of March, from Major-General Halleck, that he had "directed General Steele to make a real move, as suggested by you (Banks), instead of a demonstration as he (Steele) thought advisable." In April General Halleck informed me that he had telegraphed General Steele "to co-operate with you (Banks) on Red River with all his available forces." April 16, I was informed, under date of the 10th, by General Sherman, that General Steele's entire force would co-operate with me and the navy.

In May I received information from General Steele, under date of the 28th* of April, that he could not leave Camden unless supplies were sent to him, as those of the country were exhausted; that we "could not help each other operating on lines so wide apart;" that he could not say definitely that he could join me "at any point on Red River at any given time," and, from the distance that separated us, that I could render no assistance to him—an opinion in which I entirely concurred. I never received authority to give orders to General Steele. My instructions limited me to communication with him upon the subject of the expedition. His orders he received from other sources. I have no doubt that General Steele did all in his power to insure success, but as communication with him was necessarily by special messenger, and occupied from fifteen to twenty days at each communication, it was impossible for either of us fully to comprehend the relative positions of the two armies, or to assist or to support each other.

The column of General A. J. Smith was a partially independent command. General Sherman, in his dispatch of the 10th of April, received the 16th, informed me that the thirty days for which he had loaned me General Smith's command would expire on the 10th

*See Steele to Banks, April 23, Part III, p. 267.

of April, the day after the battle of Pleasant Hill. General Smith's instructions, which he showed me, required him to confer constantly with Admiral Porter, the approved friend of the Army of the Tennessee. His orders were dated headquarters Red River expedition, steamer Clara Bell. He never declined co-operation with me, nor did he receive orders from me. He made no official reports of his forces or their operations. He was in nowise responsible for the results of the expedition, and may perhaps be said to have gained as much by its failure as he would from its success. When his thirty days were up he claimed the right at Grand Ecore to return to Vicksburg, irrespective of the condition of the army or the fleet, and did not consider himself at all responsible for the inevitable consequences of his withdrawal to the army or the navy, nor for that detention which their preservation demanded. That responsibility I was called upon to assume in written orders. I entertain no doubt that his official course was entirely consistent with his orders, and I cheerfully acknowledge the generous and earnest efforts of General Mower, of the Sixteenth, and General T. Kilby Smith, of the Seventeenth Corps, to infuse into the different corps that unity of spirit which is as essential to victory as the valor of the soldiers in actual battle. I gladly accord to the men of their commands the honor of having fought a desperate enemy, superior in numbers, with as much gallantry and success as that which distinguished the troops of my immediate command. No higher praise than this can be given to any soldiers. Alexander's troops never fought better.

The results of the position of the cavalry train, and the loose order of march by the leading column of troops under Major-General Franklin, on the 8th of April, before the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads, have been stated. A commanding officer is, of course, responsible for all that occurs to his command, whatever may have been the cause. I do not shrink from that responsibility. But while it was both proper and necessary for me to give personal attention to the prompt advance of all the troops and fleet from Grand Ecore on the morning of the 7th, it was supposed that the movement of a single column of 13,000 men, moving in advance on one road for a distance of less than 50 miles in such manner as to be able to encounter the enemy if he offered resistance, might safely be intrusted to an officer of the reputation and experience of Major-General Franklin, whose rank, except in one instance, was superior to that of any officer of the expedition or fo the Department of the Gulf.

I make no complaint of the navy, but in view of its prolific dispatches, long since published on this campaign, I may properly repeat a few facts already stated. The success of the expedition depended solely upon celerity of movement. The navy delayed the advance of the army at Alexandria sixteen days, and at Grand Ecore three days. It occupied four days in moving from Grand Ecore to Springfield Landing, a distance of 104 miles, upon what the dispatches call "a rising river with good water," where it arrived two days after the first battle and one day after the decisive battle of the campaign at Pleasant Hill. It detained the army ten days at Grand Ecore and eighteen days at Alexandria on its return. These are not opinions; they are events. To the army they were pregnant and bloody events. The difficulties of navigation, the imperfect concentration of forces, the incautious march of the 8th of April, and the limited time allotted to the expedition were the causes of its failure.

We owe nothing to the enemy, not even our defeat. Could any

one of these difficulties have been avoided the object of the campaign would have been accomplished. But the occupation of Shreveport could not have been maintained. The presence of the enemy would have required such a force for its defense as could not have been supplied by the river, and for which no other arrangement had been made, as suggested in my dispatch of the 30th of March. The only possible method of maintaining this position would have been to concentrate at this point a force superior in numbers to the enemy, with sufficient time to pursue him wherever he should move, even if it took us to Galveston, on the Gulf coast. This was suggested as a possible result of the campaign, but it was not embraced within the original plan, and was specially precluded by orders received from the lieutenant-general commanding the armies.*

I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General Volunteers.

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

From Major-General Banks to Lieutenant-Commander Selfridge.

GRAND ECORE, LA., *April* 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date. On the 15th, I had an interview with Admiral Porter, in which our position was fully discussed, but did not know that he was to leave this post.

In reference to the operations of the army, I can only say at present that we are here under instructions from the Government to move upon Shreveport in co-operation with the forces of General Steele. General Steele failed to co-operate with us, as far as we can learn, and thus far renders us no assistance. I have sent to him by the way of Little Rock and requested him to join us upon the line of the river, where we can move forward in column against the enemy. With the co-operation of his forces our occupation of Shreveport is certain and immediate. It is impossible to say at this time whether we shall receive that co-operation or not. Until it is ascertained definitely that this part of the plan of the Government at Washington will fail us, and that my force is insufficient to advance farther upon this line against the enemy, who appears to be in full force, I shall entertain no thought of a retrograde movement, certainly not if it leaves the navy in any danger. No such purpose is contemplated now. I have sent for all the troops that can be gathered from my own department to move to this point immediately. I have also requested, as I have said, the co-operation of General Steele. * * * In my interview with the admiral he expressed the utmost confidence in the rise of the river, and did not speak upon the subject of the withdrawing either of his vessels or the troops. His last suggestion to me was that it would be imprudent for me to advance until the river should rise.

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* A map illustrating the campaign under General Banks, prepared to accompany his report, will appear in the Atlas. Maps of the combats at Fort De Russy, Henderson's Hill, Wilson's Farm, Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Hill, Monett's Bluff, and Mansura follow on pp. 224–235.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

Extract of a letter from Col. W. S. Abert, dated Fort Bunker Hill, D. C., January 24, 1865, to General Banks.

* * * * * * *

In reply to your communication of to-day, asking for my recollections as to the condition of the navy when our forces retired from Grand Ecore, I have the honor to state that on the afternoon of April 21 you directed me to report to Admiral Porter (then superintending the raising of the Eastport), inform him that the army was ready to move, and if he was prepared would start the same night. I left on the steamer Gillum, and on nearing the point where the Eastport was sunk found she had gone. The Cricket, with Admiral Porter on board, was tied up to the right bank of the river, and she, together with an army transport, were the only steamers in sight. I went on board the Cricket and delivered my message to the admiral. He told me they had been successful in raising the Eastport, and that he had started her down the river. He hoped to get her through safely, but at the same time expressed some doubts about it. I told him that the army would move that evening if he was ready. He directed me to inform the general commanding that he had made preparations to protect the transports, and that he was prepared to move. I then returned to Grand Ecore and delivered my message to the general commanding.

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W. S. ABERT,
Colonel, Commanding.

ADDENDA.

U. S. MISS. SQUADRON, FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK,
Mound City, June 13, 1864.

Extracts of Admiral Porter's report to the honorable Secretary of the Navy concerning the building of dam and release of vessels from above the falls by Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey:

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK,
Mouth Red River, May 16, 1864.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the vessels lately caught by low water above the falls at Alexandria have been released from the unpleasant position. The water had fallen so low that I had no hope or expectation of getting the vessels out this season, and as the army had made arrangements to evacuate the country, I saw nothing before me but the destruction of the best part of the Mississippi Squadron. There seems to have been an especial providence looking out for us in providing a man equal to the emergency. Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, acting engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps, proposed a plan of building a series of dams across the rocks at the falls, and raising the water high enough to let the vessels pass over. This proposition looked like madness, and the best engineers ridiculed it, but Colonel Bailey was so sanguine of success that I requested General Banks to have it done, and he entered heartily in the work. Provisions were short, and forage was almost out, and the dam was

promised to be finished in ten days, or the army would have to leave us. I was doubtful about the time, but had no doubt about the ultimate success if time would only permit. General Banks placed at the disposal of Colonel Bailey all the force he required, consisting of some 3,000 men and 200 or 300 wagons. All the neighboring steam mills were torn down for material. Two or three regiments of Maine men were set to work felling trees, and on the second day after my arrival in Alexandria from Grand Ecore the work had fairly begun. Trees were falling with great rapidity; teams were moving in all directions bringing in brick and stone; quarries were opened; flat-boats were built to bring stone down from above, and every man seemed to be working with a vigor I have seldom seen equaled, while perhaps not one in fifty believed in the success of the undertaking.

These falls are about a mile in length, filled with rugged rocks, over which at the present stage of water it seemed to be impossible to make a channel. The work was commenced by running out from the left bank of the river a tree dam, made of the bodies of very large trees, brush, brick, and stone, cross-tied with other heavy timber, and strengthened in every way which ingenuity could devise. This was run out about 300 feet into the river. Four large coal barges were then filled with brick and sunk at the end of it. From the right bank of the river cribs filled with stone were built out to meet the barges, all of which was successfully accomplished, notwithstanding there was a current running of 9 miles an hour, which threatened to sweep everything before it.

It will take too much time to enter into the details of this truly wonderful work. Suffice it to say that the dam had nearly reached completion in eight days' working time, and the water had risen sufficiently on the upper falls to allow the Fort Hindman, Osage, and Neosho to get down and be ready to pass the dam. In another day it would have been high enough to enable all the other vessels to pass the upper falls. Unfortunately, on the morning of the 9th instant the pressure of water became so great that it swept away two of the stone barges, which swung in below the dam on one side.

* * * * * * *

This accident to the dam, instead of disheartening Colonel Bailey, only induced him to renew his exertions after he had seen the success of getting four vessels through. The noble-hearted soldiers, seeing their labor of the last eight days swept away in a moment, cheerfully went to work to repair damages, being confident now that all the gun-boats would be finally brought over. These men had been working for eight days and nights, up to their necks in water, in the broiling sun, cutting trees and wheeling bricks, and nothing but good humor prevailed among them.

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The force of the water and current being too great to construct a continuous dam of 600 feet across the river in so short a time, Colonel Bailey determined to leave a gap of 55 feet in the dam, and build a series of wing-dams on the upper falls. This was accomplished in three days' time.

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Words are inadequate to express the admiration I feel for the abilities of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey. This is without doubt the best engineering feat performed. Under the best circumstances a private company would not have completed this work under one

year, and to an ordinary mind the whole thing would have appeared an utter impossibility. Leaving out his ability as an engineer, the credit he has conferred upon the country, he has saved to the Union a valuable fleet, worth nearly $2,000,000 more; he has deprived the enemy of a triumph which would have emboldened them to carry on this war a year or two longer, for the intended departure of the army was a fixed fact, and there was nothing left for me to do in case that event occurred but destroy every part of the vessels, so that the rebels could make nothing of them. The highest honors the Government can bestow upon Colonel Bailey can never repay him for the service he has rendered the country.

To General Banks personally I am much indebted for the happy manner in which he forwarded this enterprise, giving it his whole attention night and day, scarcely sleeping while the work was going on, tending personally to see that all the requirements of Colonel Bailey were complied with on the instant. I do not believe there was ever a case where such difficulties were overcome in such a short space of time, and without any preparation.

I beg leave to mention the names of some of the persons engaged on this work, as I think that credit should be given to every man employed on it. I am unable to give the names of all, but sincerely trust that General Banks will do full justice to every officer engaged in the undertaking when he makes his report. I only regret that time did not enable me to get the names of all concerned. The following are the names of the most prominent persons: Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, acting military engineer, Nineteenth Army Corps, in charge of the work; Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall, assistant; Colonel Dwight, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Col. W. B. Kinsey, One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers; Lieutenant-Colonel Hubbard, Thirtieth Maine Volunteers; Major Sentell, provost-marshal, and Lieutenant Williamson, ordnance officer.

The following were a portion of the regiments employed: Twenty-ninth Maine, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Emerson; One hundred and sixteenth New York, commanded by Col. George M. Love; One hundred and sixty-first New York, commanded by Captain Prentice; One hundred and thirty-third New York, commanded by Colonel Currie. The Engineer regiment and officers of the Thirteenth Army Corps were also employed.

I feel that I have done but feeble justice to the work or the persons engaged in it. Being severely indisposed, I feel myself unable to go into further detail. I trust some future historian will treat this matter as it deserves to be treated, because it is a subject in which the whole country should feel an interest, and the noble men who succeeded so admirably in this arduous task should not lose one atom of credit so justly due them. The Mississippi Squadron will never forget the obligations it is under to Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, acting military engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

If this expedition has not been so successful as the country hoped for, it has exhibited the indomitable spirit of Eastern and Western men to overcome obstacles deemed by most people insurmountable. It has presented a new feature in the war, nothing like which has ever been accomplished before.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, May 31, 1864.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron, Cairo, Ill.:

SIR: The Department acknowledges the receipt of your interesting report of the 16th instant, giving a detailed and graphic account of the rescue of the Mississippi Squadron from its perilous position above the falls at Alexandria, Red River, and of the aid which you received through the indomitable perseverence and engineering skill of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, acting military engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps. It is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure that the Department learns of the safe passage of this valuable squadron, threatened as it was with inevitable capture or destruction, and congratulates you and your command that the fleet, which has borne such a conspicuous part in many of the great events of the war, has been spared to the country for future usefulness and renown.

You will tender the thanks of the Department to the officers and men of the army for the cheerful aid given you in this great emergency, without which the squadron would unavoidably have fallen into the hands of the rebels or been destroyed.

While regretting the loss of the steamers Signal and Covington and lamenting for the brave men who fell in the engagement with the enemy, the Department takes great pleasure in expressing its admiration of the gallant manner in which those vessels were defended, and has reason to believe that the officers and men did their whole duty nobly and faithfully.

Very respectfully,

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK,
Mound City, June 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Mil. Div., of West Mississippi:

GENERAL: I am directed by the honorable Secretary of the Navy to convey the thanks of the Department to the enterprising and gallant officers and men who so nobly aided the gun-boats to get down from above the falls at Alexandria when there was every prospect of their remaining there, owing to low water, and a probability of their being destroyed to prevent their falling into the hands of the rebels. I have already expressed to the Department in my report (a copy of which I herewith inclose*) the high estimate I placed upon the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey and his associates, and I can add nothing that will convey a stronger expression of feeling for the aid we received through the indomitable perseverance and skill of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, to whom belongs the entire credit of the enterprise, he having conceived the idea of building the dam. It is

*See p. 219.

the intention of the officers connected with the late Red River fleet to present to Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey a memento in commemoration of the safe passage of the vessels; this will be sent to him at a proper time, and I hope he will receive it as a very small testimonial of the high appreciation they have of the service he rendered them and the crews on that occasion. Congratulating him on his promotion, so well deserved, and hoping that the brave officers and men associated with him will appreciate the kind feelings we shall ever entertain for them.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. HDQRS. MIL. DIV. OF WEST MISS., *New Orleans, La., June 22*, 1864.

In communicating the desire of Rear-Admiral Porter to convey to the troops under the command of Major-General Banks the thanks of the Navy Department, for the assistance rendered the gunboats of the Mississippi Squadron during the recent operations on Red River, the commanding general publishes, with great pleasure, the subjoined extract from a dispatch from the Secretary of the Navy to the commander of that squadron. To this he is authorized to add, on the part of the admiral and officers and men of his squadron, the expression of the kind feeling they will always entertain for the officers and men engaged in this work. Although applying specially to a part only of the troops in the division, the commanding general considers it proper to make the announcement general, believing that all the troops of this command will learn with pleasure that their comrades have rendered important aid to another branch of the service, will appreciate the kind feelings which have been expressed for them, and, like them, will always be ready to cooperate with zeal and energy in whatever tends to advance the interests of a cause in which we can have but one interest and one object.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, *Washington, May 31*, 1864.

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It is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure that the Department learns of the safe passage of this valuable squadron, threatened, as it was, with inevitable capture or destruction, and congratulates you and your command that the fleet which has borne such a conspicuous part in many of the great events of the war has been spared to the country for future usefulness and renown. You will tender the thanks of the Department to the officers and men of the army, for the cheerful aid given you in this great emergency, without which the squadron would unavoidably have fallen into the hands of the rebels or been destroyed.

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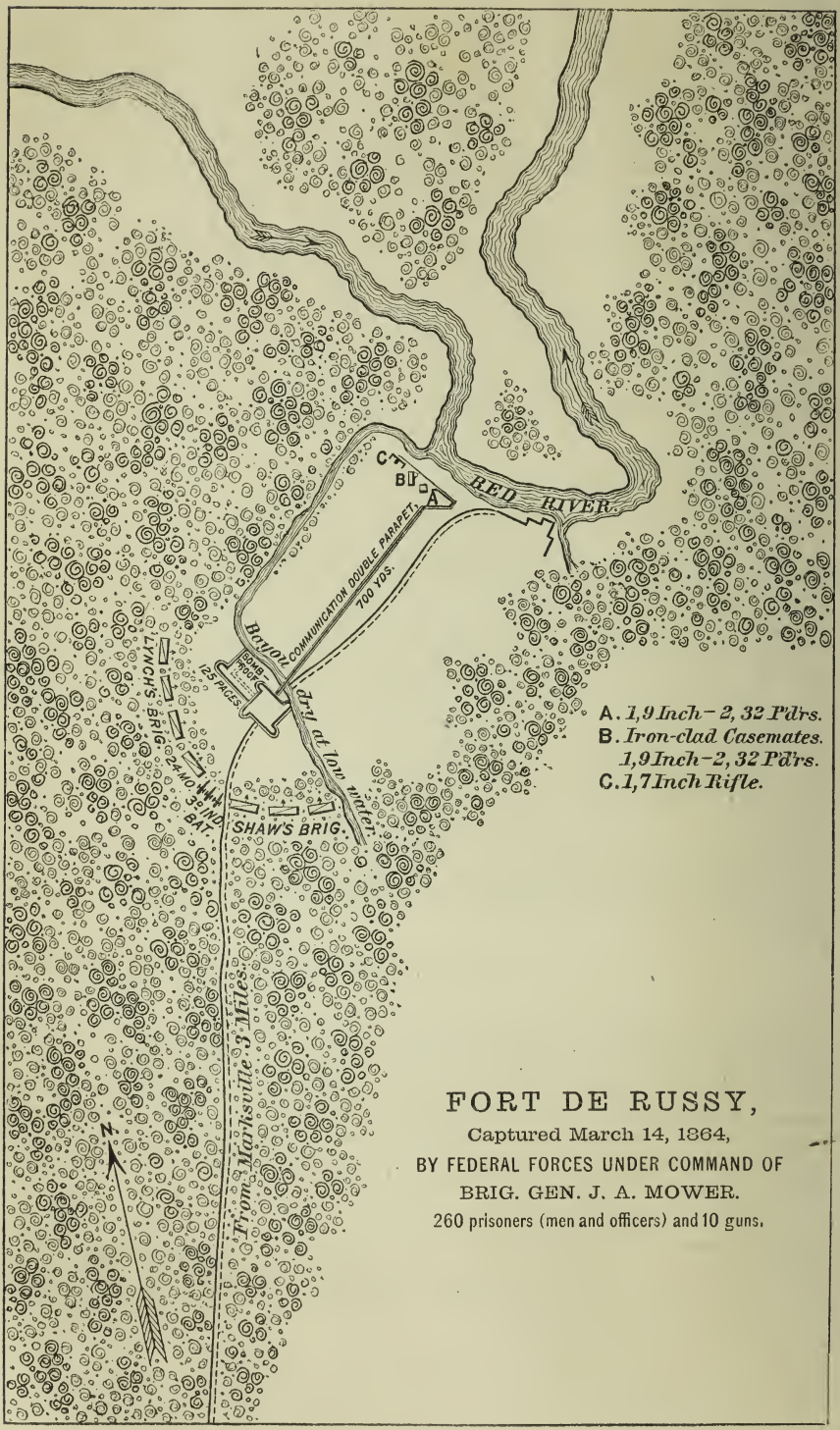
By command of Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby:

C. T. CHRISTENSEN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.



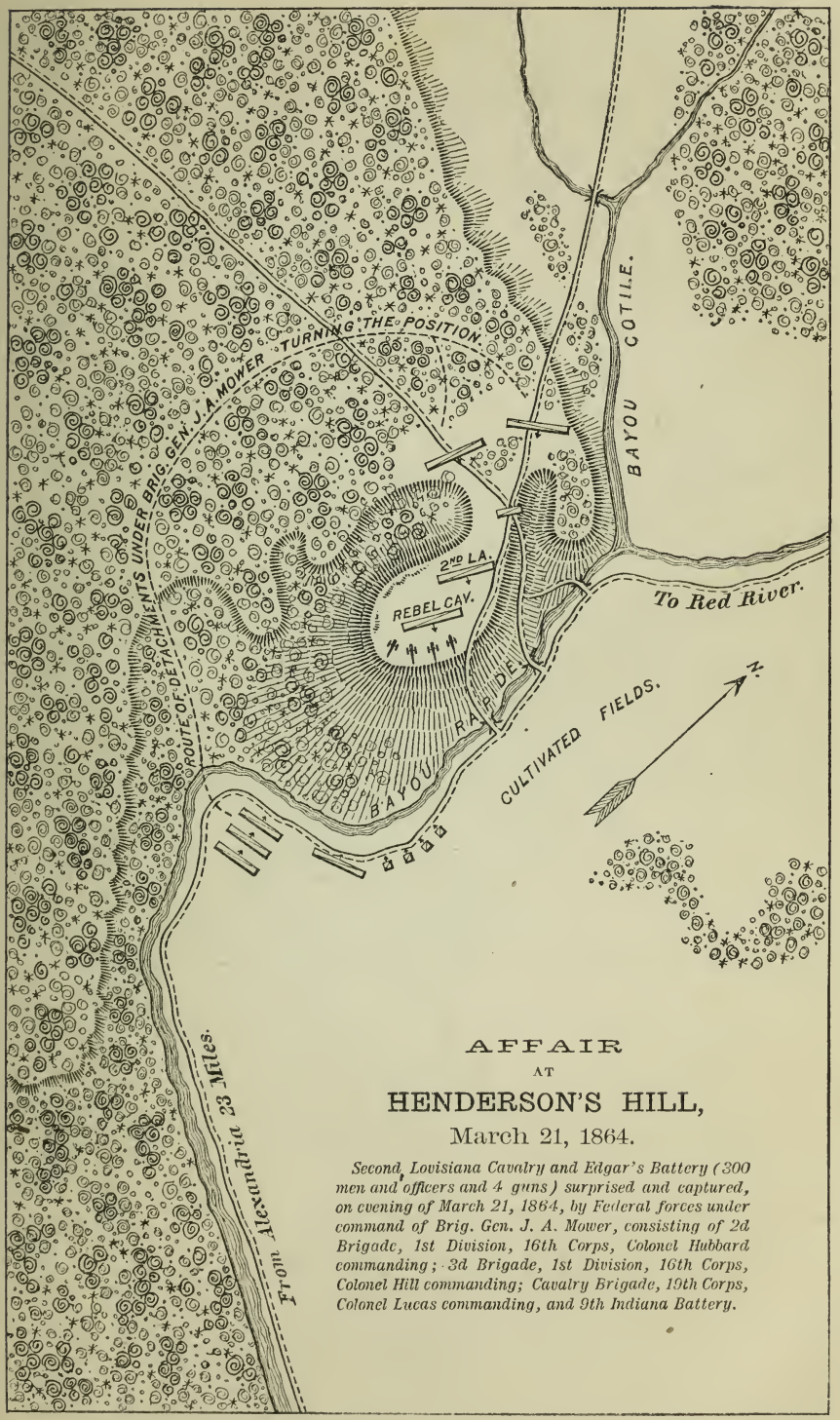
FORT DE RUSSY,

Captured March 14, 1864,

BY FEDERAL FORCES UNDER COMMAND OF

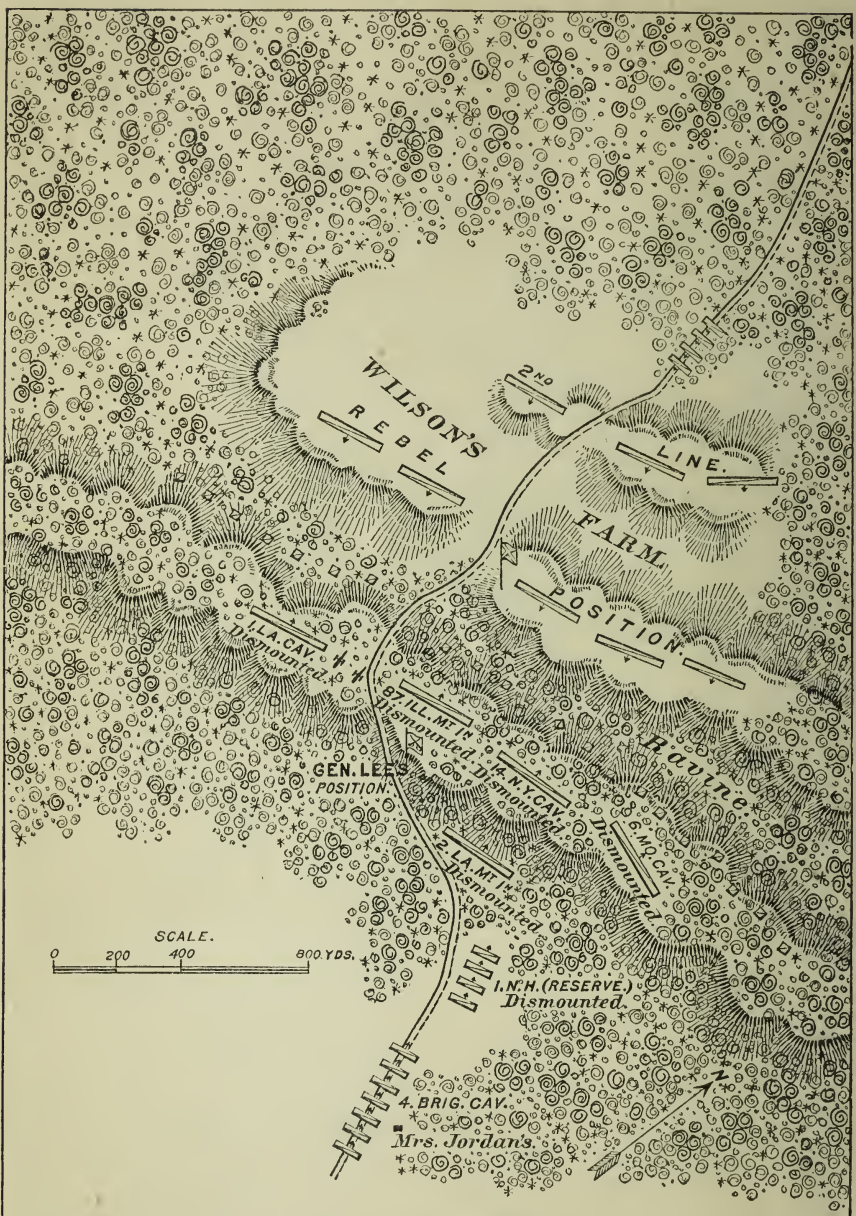
BRIG. GEN. J. A. MOWER.

260 prisoners (men and officers) and 10 guns.

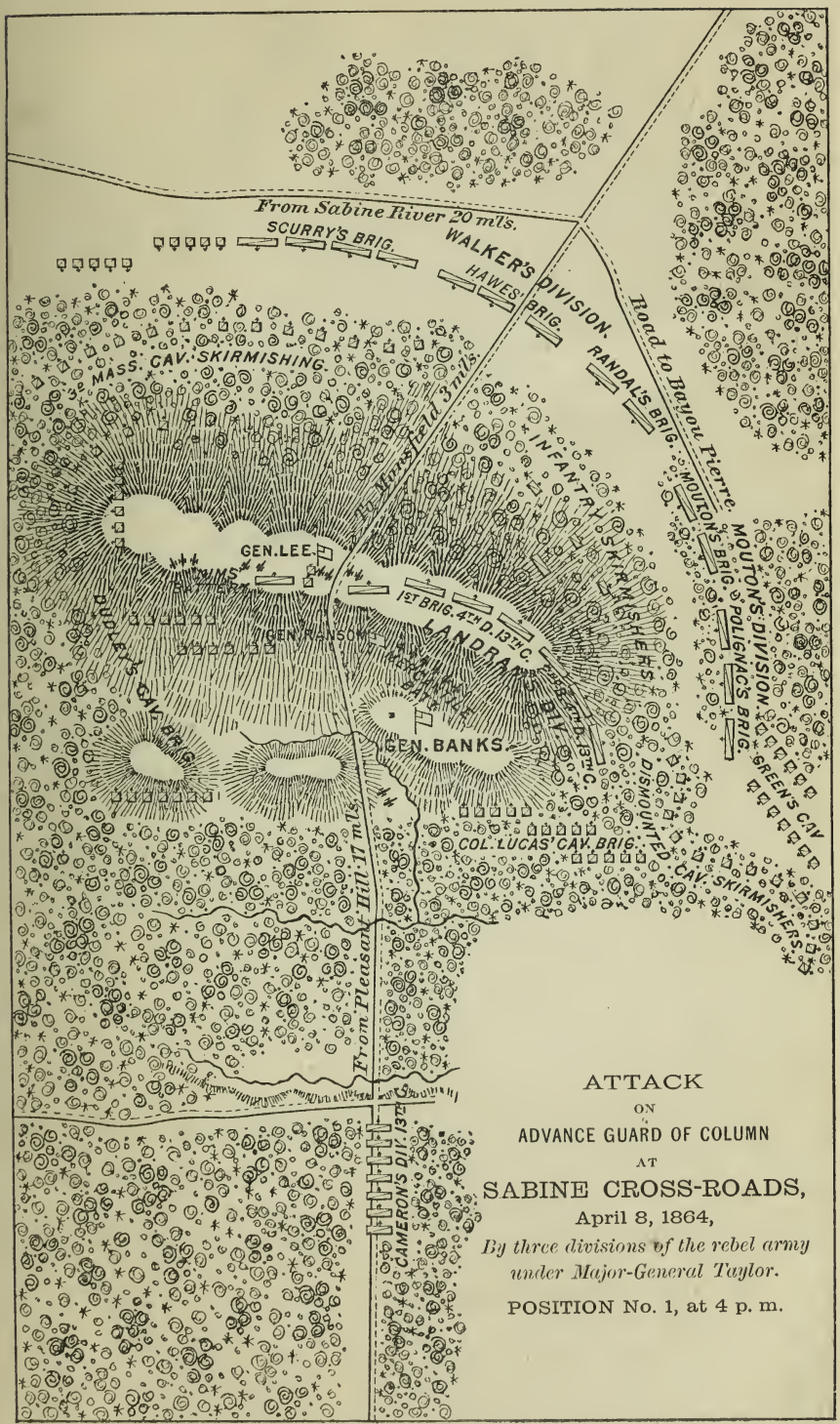


AFFAIR
AT
HENDERSON'S HILL,
March 21, 1864.

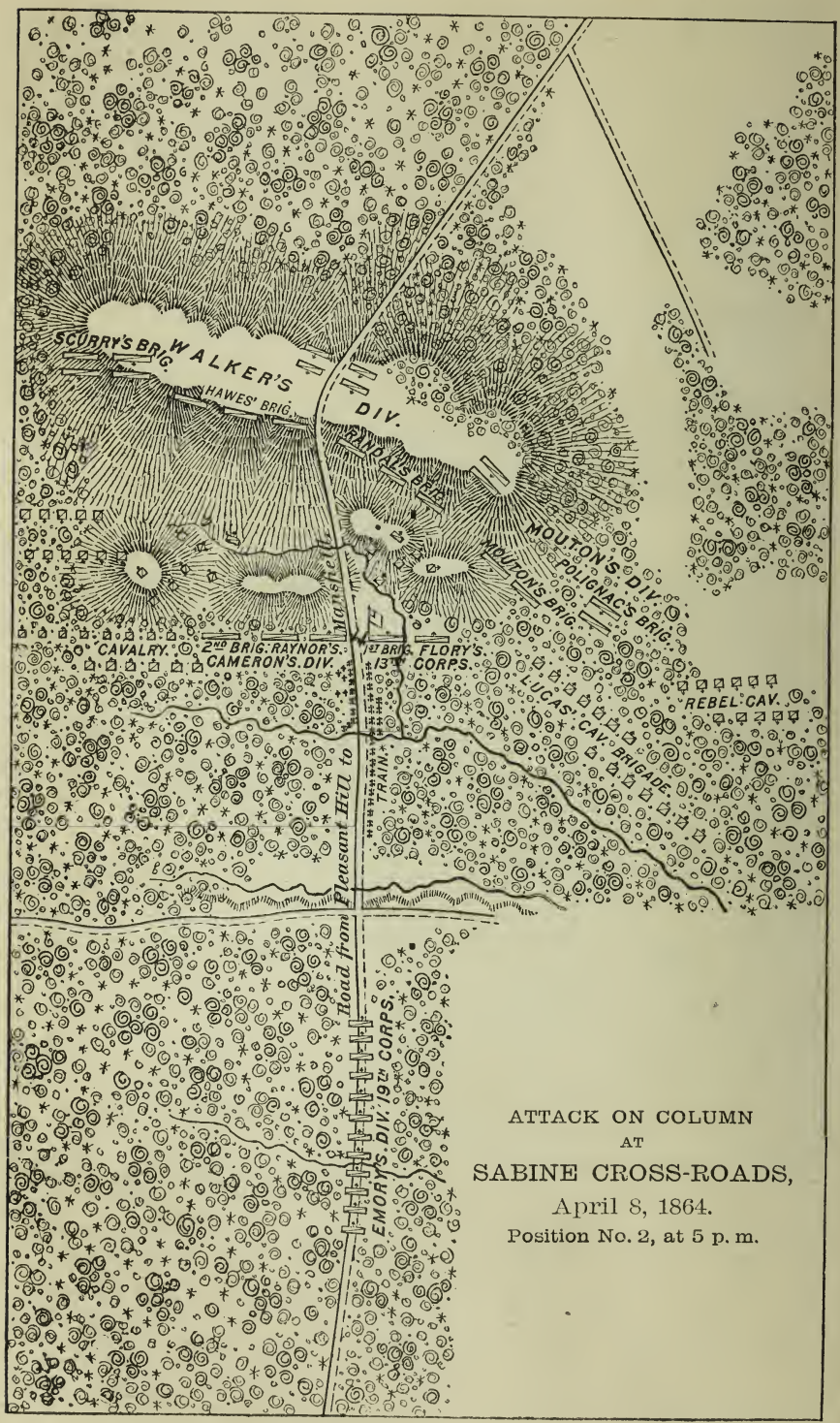
Second Louisiana Cavalry and Edgar's Battery (300 men and officers and 4 guns) surprised and captured, on evening of March 21, 1864, by Federal forces under command of Brig. Gen. J. A. Mower, consisting of 2d Brigade, 1st Division, 16th Corps, Colonel Hubbard commanding; 3d Brigade, 1st Division, 16th Corps, Colonel Hill commanding; Cavalry Brigade, 19th Corps, Colonel Lucas commanding, and 9th Indiana Battery.



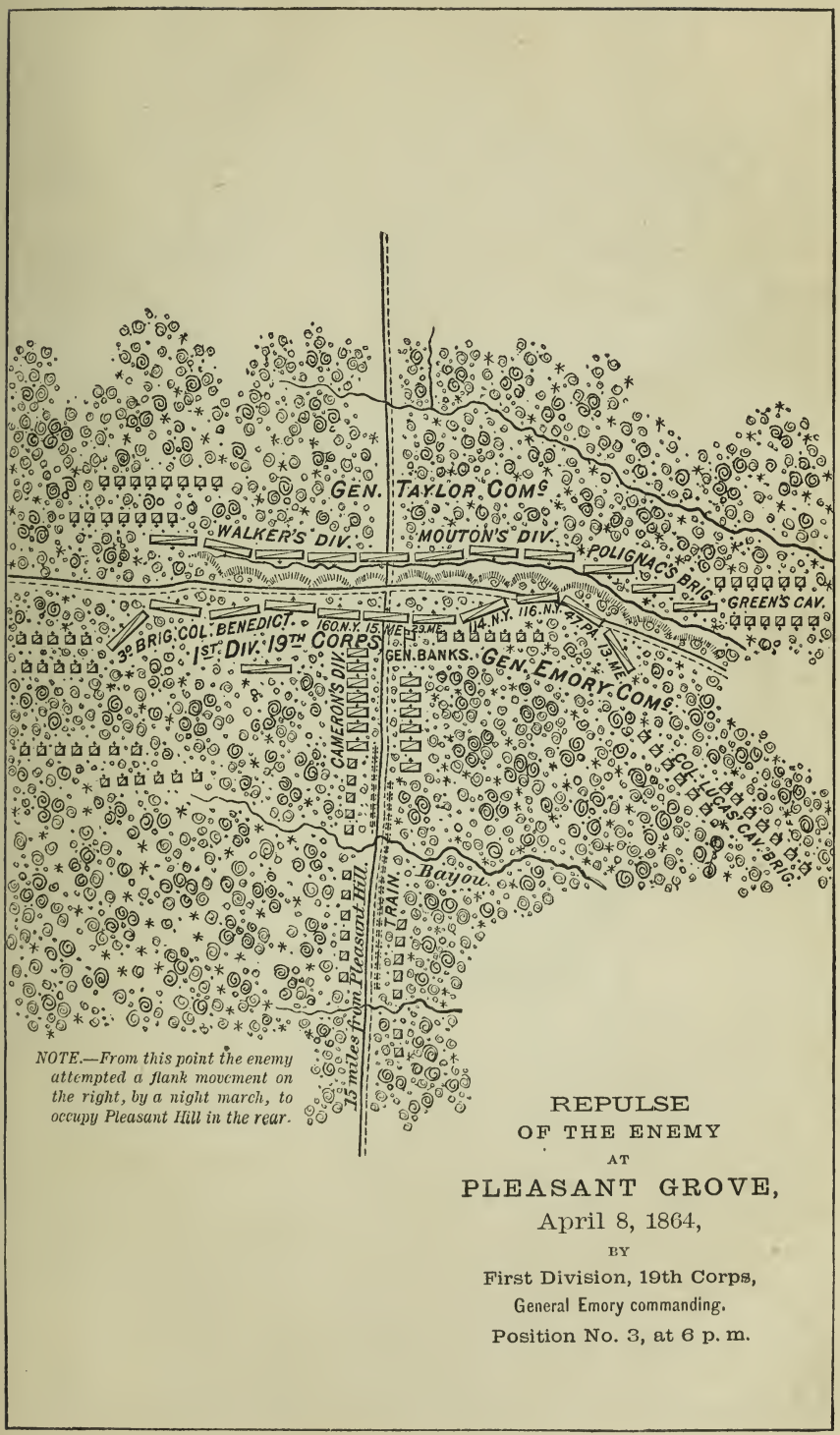
CAVALRY FIGHT
AT
WILSON'S FARM,
April 7, 1864.
BRIG. GEN. A. L. LEE,
Chief of cavalry, commanding Federal forces.



ATTACK
ON
ADVANCE GUARD OF COLUMN
AT
SABINE CROSS-ROADS,
April 8, 1864,
By three divisions of the rebel army under Major-General Taylor.
POSITION No. 1, at 4 p. m.



ATTACK ON COLUMN
AT
SABINE CROSS-ROADS,
April 8, 1864.
Position No. 2, at 5 p. m.



NOTE.—From this point the enemy attempted a flank movement on the right, by a night march, to occupy Pleasant Hill in the rear.

REPULSE
OF THE ENEMY
AT
PLEASANT GROVE,
April 8, 1864,
BY
First Division, 19th Corps,
General Emory commanding.
Position No. 3, at 6 p. m.

BATTLE
OF
PLEASANT HILL.

Position No. 1, 5 p. m., April 9, 1864.

Enemy's attack on right and center with five divisions.

BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL.

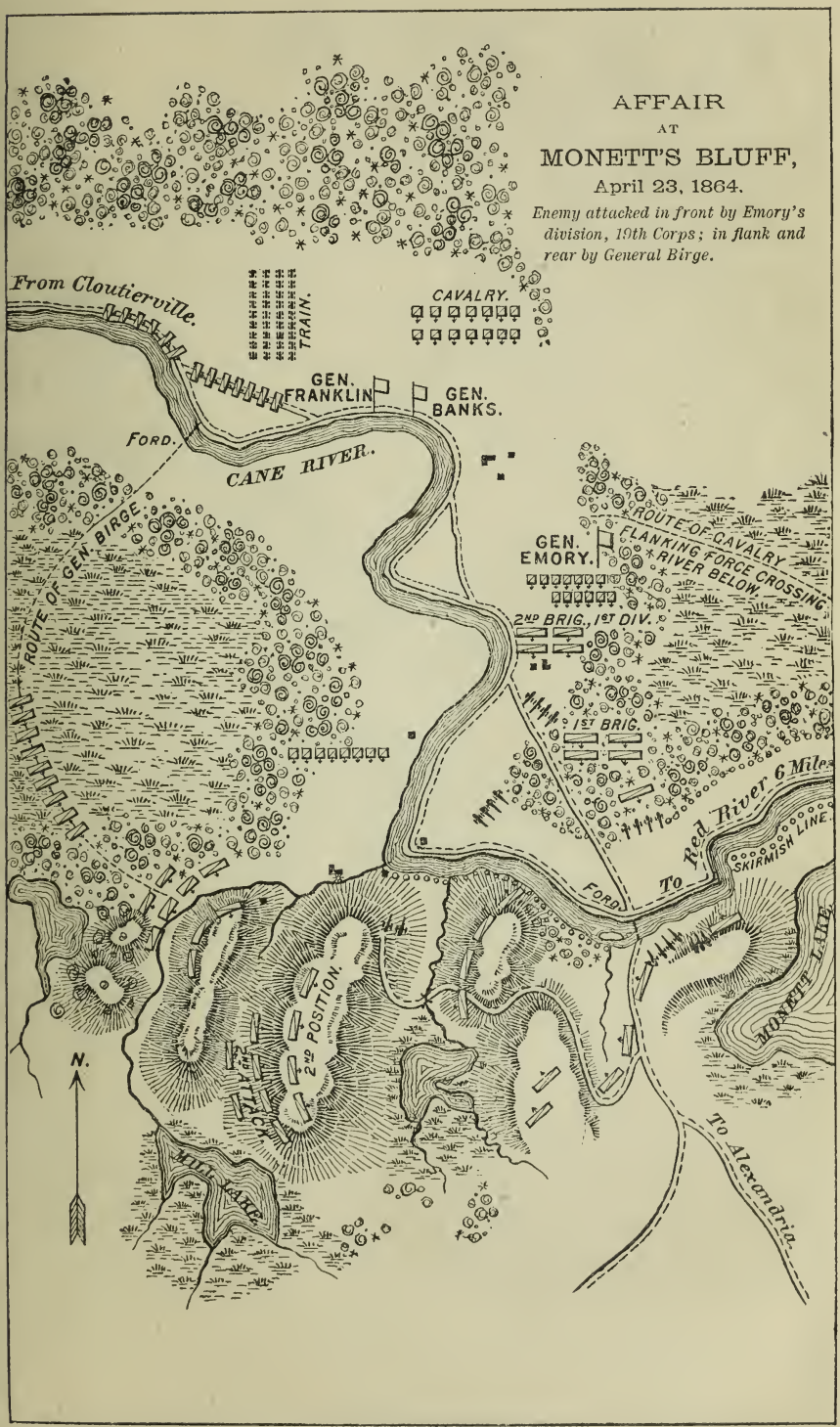
Position No. 2, 5.45 p.m., April 9, 1864.

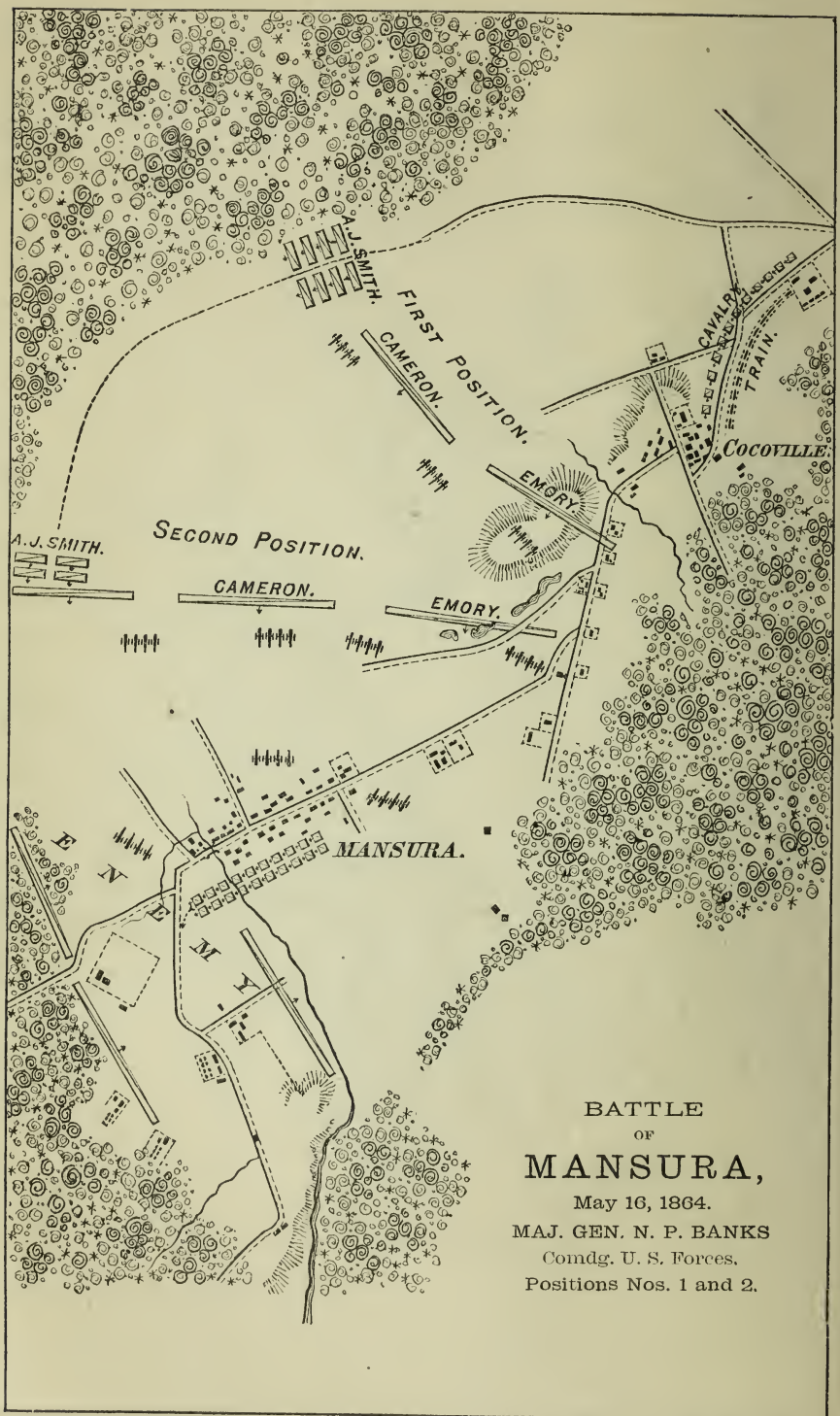
Enemy having broken the center advanced rapidly over the plain to within pistol-shot of the reserves; were met by a severe infantry and artillery fire, followed by a charge of the entire force, driving them from the field.

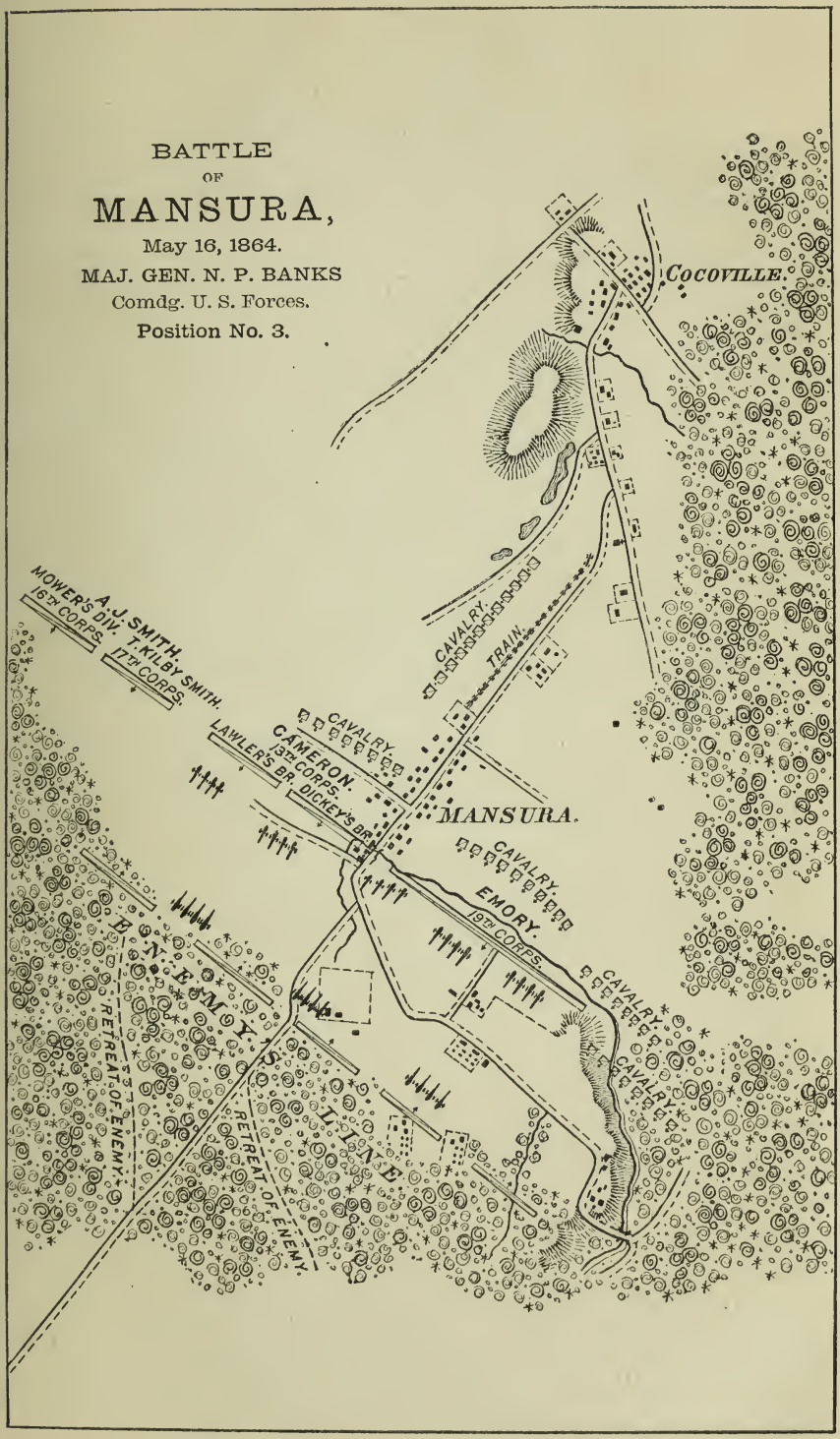
BATTLE
OF
PLEASANT HILL.

Position No. 3, 7 p. m., April 9, 1864.

Enemy driven from the field and pursued on the left for 3 miles.


AFFAIR
AT
MONETT'S BLUFF,
April 23, 1864.
Enemy attacked in front by Emory's division, 19th Corps; in flank and rear by General Birge.
From Cloutierville.
TRAIN.
CAVALRY.
GEN. FRANKLIN
GEN. BANKS.
FORD.
CANE RIVER.
ROUTE OF GEN. BIRGE.
ROUTE OF CAVALRY FLANKING FORCE CROSSING RIVER BELOW.
GEN. EMORY.
2ND BRIG., 1ST DIV.
1ST BRIG.
Red River 6 Miles
To
SKIRMISH LINE.
FORD
MONETT'S LANE
2D POSITION.
N.
MILL LANE.
To Alexandria.


A.J. SMITH.
A.J. SMITH.
FIRST POSITION.
CAMERON.
CAVALRY
TRAIN.
COCOVILLE.
EMORY.
A.J. SMITH.
SECOND POSITION.
CAMERON.
EMORY.
MANSURA.
BATTLE
OF
MANSURA,
May 16, 1864.
MAJ. GEN. N. P. BANKS
Comdg. U. S. Forces.
Positions Nos. 1 and 2.


BATTLE
OF
MANSURA,
May 16, 1864.
MAJ. GEN. N. P. BANKS
Comdg. U. S. Forces.
Position No. 3.
COCOVILLE.
A. J. SMITH
MOWER'S DIV. 16TH CORPS.
T. KILBY SMITH
17TH CORPS.
CAVALRY.
TRAIN.
CAVALRY.
CAMERON.
13TH CORPS.
LAWLER'S BR.
DICKEY'S BR.
MANSURA.
CAVALRY.
EMORY.
19TH CORPS.
CAVALRY.
CAVALRY.
CAVALRY.
RETREAT OF ENEMY.
RETREAT OF ENEMY.
ENEMY'S LINE

No. 3.

Report of Lieut. Col. John G. Chandler, U. S. Army, Acting Chief Quartermaster.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *December* 26, 1864.

SIR: Your letter, dated November 26, 1864, Quartermaster-General's Office, Washington, D. C., requiring from me a report upon the operations of the quartermaster's department in connection with the Red River expedition, and the losses incurred therein, was received by me on the 18th instant. In compliance therewith I have the honor to submit the following: On the 8th of January, 1864, the movable field force of the Nineteenth Army Corps, the First Division, commanded by Brigadier-General Emory, with a detachment of cavalry and artillery, took post at Franklin, La., for the winter; this after having returned from a feint march toward Texas. The command at this place was under Maj. Gen. W. B. Franklin, commanding Nineteenth Army Corps, to which command I was chief quartermaster, with no more than general instructions to prepare the command as far as pertained to my branch of the service for active operations when the spring should open. The material of the quartermaster's department with this command was put in perfect condition for any orders or exigencies that could obtain; wagons completely repaired, mules and horses nursed and fatted, harness and repair material liberally supplied and renewed, the troops thoroughly equipped with all necessary articles of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, and, indeed, every preparation made by me, under orders from General Franklin, that could be anticipated to place the department in good working order.

Just before the command was ordered to march, two divisions of the Thirteenth Army Corps, hastily but quite thoroughly equipped, joined our command for the march. The transportation of the entire command at this time numbered 307 teams in the aggregate.

On the 15th of March this command left Franklin, La., under orders for Shreveport, and with everything pertaining to the quartermaster's department in condition for long marches, and arrived at Alexandria, on Red River, on the 25th March. During the few months our command had been posted at Franklin, Brig. Gen. A. L. Lee had organized a division of cavalry, or mounted men equipped as cavalry, and mounted infantry, at New Orleans. To this command was attached two batteries of horse artillery. General Lee, with his command, had preceded us a day or two in our march from Franklin to Alexandria, and on my arrival at the latter place found he had been there several days. With the organization of the quartermaster's department of this command, and its outfit of quartermaster's supplies, I had nothing to do, and was in consequence irresponsible in every way up to the time of its joining General Franklin's command. I will remark, however, that its transportation appeared to be thoroughly and well prepared, wagons, harness, and mules having been drawn from the New Orleans depots, new and in good order. Its train consisted of about 250 6-mule teams. Major-General Banks arrived at Alexandria, via Mississippi and Red River, from New Orleans by steamer the 24th March, the day previous to our arrival. The command remained at Alexandria until the 28th March. The interval of three days was occupied in refitting, repairing, resting, issuing fresh supplies of forage and provisions, &c.

On arrival at Alexandria, besides the fleet of naval gun-boats under Rear-Admiral Porter, was a fleet of some sixteen transports, with a force of about 8,000 men, infantry and artillery, under command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith. There were also there several transports with commissary and quartermaster's supplies, from the New Orleans depots, from which our command replenished. General Smith's troops, transports, and supplies had come from points above the mouth of Red River and had accompanied the gun-boat fleet up Red River, and was organized almost solely with the view of moving by water alone. The command was scantily provided with land transportation or quartermaster's supplies, clothing, camp and garrison equipage. Its quartermaster's department appeared without much system, General Smith attending personally to all the wants of his command; the division quartermasters had been left behind. General Smith, although reporting to General Banks, seemed prepared to move only on his transports and with the admiral.

Orders were issued to march to Shreveport from Alexandria. The gun-boat fleet and transport fleet, with General Smith's troops, the hospital and supply fleet from New Orleans, and the commanding general and staff left Alexandria for Shreveport, April 3, about seven days after the command of General Franklin marched for the same destination by land. On our march the cavalry and its trains moved a day in advance of the infantry and its trains. Our command reached Natchitoches, 3 miles off from Red River, inland from Grand Ecore, April 2. I had supervision of the infantry trains and supplies only until we arrived at Natchitoches, when the entire land force, cavalry and infantry, moved under the immediate direction of General Franklin. During our stay at Natchitoches General Banks arrived at Grand Ecore.

The command under General Franklin, with which I moved, left Natchitoches April 6. It consisted of Lee's cavalry division, the Third and Fourth Divisions, Thirteenth Army Corps, with one brigade of colored troops; its destination Shreveport. The land transportation of this command, and moving with it, under my personal control, consisted of about 900 teams, inclusive of the cavalry train, which, however, moved out with it, and generally one day's march in advance of the infantry column. On the first day's march from Natchitoches everything went on well, with slight skirmishing to our advantage in front.

On the second day's march, that of the 7th April, the order of march was as the day previous, the cavalry and its train in advance, followed by the infantry with its train. The resistance to our progress offered this day by the enemy was greater than that of the day previous, and at night this resistance, with the information received from the front, led to the general belief that we might expect strong opposition to our advance on the morrow. General Banks and staff joined the command about 11 o'clock this night from Grand Ecore.

On the night of the 7th and morning of the 8th April the cavalry and its train pushed on in advance, followed, as usual, by the infantry and train, until about 12 m. of the 8th, when the advance met the enemy in strong position at Sabine Cross-Roads. A division of infantry was then hurried forward to re-enforce and hold our position, but both cavalry and infantry met the enemy with disadvantage and repulse. While these events were taking place most of the cavalry train was halted in the road, in line of march, and well to the front.

Re-enforcements were urgently demanded from the front. These demands were not such as called for response until about 3 p. m., or perhaps a little later. General Franklin had by this time made his usual day's march, and ordered his command of infantry into camp, for rest, supper, and, perhaps, for the night, should more favorable reports reach him. Immediately after camping orders had been given reports were received that induced him to order the other division of the Thirteenth Corps to the front, and the First Division of the Nineteenth Corps to march immediately after taking supper. General Banks and staff had already proceeded rapidly to the front. Soon after the latter-mentioned division of the Thirteenth Army Corps had started, General Franklin and staff proceeded on to the front. Before our arrival the troops already at the front had been engaged, were repulsed, and in part had stampeded. As I have before stated, General Lee had his train immediately in his rear, and in the road. Knowing that re-enforcements of infantry and artillery were coming up, and the road, narrow and skirted with heavy timber and underbrush, would be required for the passage of the cavalry trains, as I had advanced I directed the teams to leave the road, by hauling to one side. To my surprise, on reaching the advance of this train, I found its quartermasters turning the teams about in the road, faced to the rear, and this by direction of their superior officers, brigade or division commanders. The certain confusion bound to result from this movement struck me so forcibly that I immediately controverted the orders, on my own responsibility, and directed these quartermasters to move their teams out of the road, and those already turned to the rear to remain out of the road, on the ground they found themselves. In the mean time the batteries and troops were passing to the front, and with but little difficulty. To account for the loss of part of this train by capture I have described its position, as well as my memory serves me. To account for the unusual position of the train I will further add that General Franklin and General Lee both wanted the cavalry train to move in rear of the infantry force, but both generals disagreed as to the precedence of position when the trains should be joined. General Lee desired that his train should precede General Franklin's infantry train, and the latter-named general insisted that the infantry trains should move in rear of the infantry force. Because of this disagreement no change was made on this day of the engagement. The most serious loss of men and material occurred on this day. Just before the close of this day, about 5 p. m., the advantage was with the enemy. At 6 o'clock the First Division of the Nineteenth Army Corps came into position, and after a spirited fight of half an hour the enemy was severely checked and retired. Night then came and with it orders for the entire command to move to the rear. I at once commenced the movement of all the trains to the rear, in good order and in advance of the troops. The trains reached Pleasant Hill about 9 a. m., April 9. The troops on arrival at this place, a little later, were placed in position to receive the enemy, who were following closely. At about 10 o'clock the command of General A. J. Smith reached the position from Grand Ecore, from which point it had been ordered up to re-enforce the advance. Orders were issued about the same time to resume the march to the rear to Grand Ecore. After an issue of provisions the trains were put in motion. At 3 p. m. the last team had left the ground. Anticipating the attack to commence every moment, the entire force, excepting the cavalry, was put in position,

and at 5 o'clock the enemy arrived and a brisk fight continued until 8 o'clock. The enemy, having met with a severe repulse in this engagement, retired after night some 6 miles to his rear. Our command left the position about midnight for the rear. My trains reached Grand Ecore in a very fatigued condition about 10 a. m. of the 10th April. The advance of the command arrived soon after, and by noon of the 11th the entire command was encamped at Grand Ecore. Our transports were also there, from which we replenished our supplies of provisions and forage. Under the orders of Major-General Banks the command was here placed in a defensive position and remained until April 20, upon which day we moved back toward Alexandria. Pevious to marching the trains were loaded with sufficient provisions and forage, repairs were made, and on the morning the march commenced the condition of all matters pertaining to the department I supervised was as perfect as it had been on our advance. The command reached Alexandria, after continued fighting front and rear, on the 25th of April. The teams moved night and day, were never unhitched, but having been well fed, arrived in a fair but fatigued condition.

Alexandria was garrisoned by the Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, and after our arrival this was attached to our force, as a part of it and to move with it. The town and vicinity, with the entire command, was then placed in a defensive position, temporary earth-works constructed, and we were delayed there until the 12th of May, awaiting the construction of the dam to pass the gun-boats over the falls of Red River. On our arrival we found that all the light-draught gun-boats and the entire transport fleet had passed over the falls, and were lying at Alexandria. The dam having been completed, the remaining vessels passed over the falls on the 11th May in safety, and orders were very soon received to abandon the position; to leave on the 12th of May and resume the march to the rear. I should have stated that, a few days after we arrived at Alexandria, our command was re-enforced by the arrival of the First Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps.

Previous to marching from Alexandria all surplus stores, tools, and land transportation were embarked on the transports, the teams reduced in number and loaded as light as possible, as continued annoyance was expected from the enemy on our march. The command, moving by land, left Alexandria on the morning of the 12th May; the gun-boat and transport fleets moved simultaneously.

The re-enforcements to the command while at Alexandria, of men and land transportation, added greatly to our numbers. The land transportation, on leaving Alexandria of the entire force, amounted to 976 teams, 105 ambulances, and, including cavalry, some 12,000 animals. The march was made successfully to the mouth of Red River, when General A. J. Smith's command embarked on his transports for Vicksburg, and the remainder of the forces continued the march to the Mississippi River, and reached Morganza the 21st May. Thus ended the campaign known or styled the Red River expedition.

The history of the operations of the quartermaster's department is but a history of the movements of the troops, and I have deemed it enough to set forth the marches and points of supply to give the proper idea of the general management of the department. During the entire campaign the public property of the department was nourished and no abandonment or useless destruction, so usual on retreats, occurred under my notice, and no serious losses other than

the accidents of march, save the capture at Sabine Cross-Roads, are recorded against the expedition.

In regard to the river transportation and the management of the transport fleet, being off from the river, I could have no supervision of it. On our advance a depot was established at Alexandria, with the conviction that our march to Shreveport would be made successfully, and no danger was anticipated of want of sufficient depth of water in the river for our boats. Both of these premises failed. At this depot the assistant quartermaster in charge controlled the transports.

On the departure from Alexandria and Red River all the public property was safely removed with the exception of the hospital steamer Woodford, which had hopelessly grounded above the falls. Efforts had been made by the assistant quartermaster in charge to raise her, force-pumps and diving apparatus sent up from New Orleans, but all efforts failed, and on our departure General Banks ordered the steamer and everything on board destroyed, to prevent her being useful in any way to the enemy. While on this point I will further add that during our stay at Alexandria the rebels below captured the quartermaster's department steamer John Warner and the chartered steamer Emma.

In connection with the narrative, it will be seen that my position was peculiar on this expedition. Although the senior officer of the department present, I was not officially announced as chief until May 3.

The command of General Franklin, to which I had been closely attached during the winter, and which had received my undivided attention, was brought, as far as its quartermaster affairs went, to a state of complete efficiency. The organization of the department with General Lee's cavalry division was made by him at New Orleans. His outfit was new and in good condition, and his command very fully equipped with all quartermaster's supplies. His assistant quartermasters were generally young, and without that experience so necessary for handling trains in the field, especially those attached to light cavalry commands.

General A. J. Smith's command had a very poor organization of its quartermaster's department. The general was his own quartermaster, and attended to all details himself. His division quartermasters had been left behind. When these distinct commands first joined a little clashing occurred, but after the troops had marched and fought together matters went on more smoothly. In the performance of my duties as chief quartermaster of this command, organized as I have just stated, it was an impossibility to please or satisfy the demands of such a variety of individuals as I had to transact business with. I was obliged, in fact, to await the arrival of accidents and exigencies and then try to overcome them, rather than to foresee and prepare myself to meet them, as would under ordinary circumstances have been my duty. Fortunately, the assistant quartermasters, generally, with the command were experienced, brave, and energetic, and to their joint efforts alone is to be attributed the prompt movement and good condition of the trains under their charge. Complaints were never made of delay in starting, of confusion on the road, of camping improperly, or of any of the tedious movements of the trains by any superior officers concerned.

The only serious losses, as I have before stated, sustained by the

quartermaster's department during the campaign, with the exception of the usual wear and tear and occasional death of animals consequent upon arduous marches, were those by capture at Sabine Cross-Roads. These losses were sustained principally by the cavalry division. In this division the assistant quartermasters responsible for property lost their books and papers, and were unable to give accurate lists of losses. I have succeeded, however, in arriving at a close approximation of the most important articles lost, with the exception of the cavalry horses. The following gives very nearly the losses of land transportation: One hundred and seventy-five army wagons, complete; 328 sets wheel harness, 584 sets lead harness, 920 mules, 81 horses, 11 ambulances and sets wheel harness. These teams when captured were variously loaded with commissary, quartermaster's, and medical supplies, with officers' and soldiers' baggage, and none of the contents were ever recovered.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. G. CHANDLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster,
Actg. Chief Q. M. in the field, Red River Expedition.

Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. Frank W. Marston, U. S. Signal Corps, Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. SIGNAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Alexandria, La., May 9, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Chief Signal Officer U. S. Army, a copy of reports of signal duty performed by officers of this department during the present campaign, with a correct transcript of messages sent and received. The services of the officers have been called in requisition whenever the nature of the country and the position of the troops have rendered them practicable. In action and on the march, when not employed in their legitimate duties, they have been zealous in performing such services as the emergency of the occasion demanded. Each and all of them have displayed a degree of personal courage, coolness, and sound judgment that prove them thoroughly reliable under the most trying circumstances. They have all done well, but I would particularly mention the names of Capt. William A. Pigman, acting signal officer, and Lieut. A. B. Jerome, Signal Corps, U. S. Army. The former was severely wounded late in the action of the 8th ultimo, while encouraging the troops at a critical moment. He has received favorable mention in the report of the major-general commanding the Nineteenth Army Corps. I would respectfully recommend this officer for promotion, he having displayed on all occasions great personal bravery, sound judgment, and cheerful obedience to all orders. Lieutenant Jerome was on duty with Admiral Porter during the operations of the navy above Grand Ecore. While the gun-boats were engaging the enemy's guns and cavalry, he directed their fire from an exposed post within short range of the enemy's

musketry, receiving a slight wound. The enlisted men of this command have behaved well in every instance, and have my entire confidence in their steadiness under fire.

Since the retreat of the army to this place a line of signal stations has been established, connecting the headquarters of the department with the outposts and with the gun-boats in the river guarding our flanks. A number of official messages have been transmitted over this line, a copy of which accompanies this report. I neglected to mention that after our forces fell back to Grand Ecore I was called to New Orleans on duty. During my absence the command of the detachment devolved upon Lieutenant Jerome, who conducted the duties of the corps with great credit. There have been 5 officers detailed for temporary service in the corps, and have received orders to report to Captain Eaton, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, for examination. Our communications with New Orleans have been interrupted for some days, and I have received no notice of the result of their examination.

During this campaign I have had constant cause for regret that the instrument formerly known as the "signal telegraph" was no longer in our hands or in operation in the field. Many opportunities arose where its services would have been invaluable. I have laid these facts before the major-general commanding the department, with the request that if the American Telegraph Company did not intend to use the instruments they might be turned over temporarily to the signal corps.

The health of this command is good. Captain Eaton and Lieutenant Herbert are at present not fit for duty in the field. Captain Butterfield, lately promoted in his regiment, has notified me of his intention to leave the service on the 1st of June. I am in hopes that the officers lately detailed will prove efficient and repair the losses this detachment has recently sustained.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK W. MARSTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of the Gulf.

Capt. H. S. Tafft,
Signal Corps, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

Hdqrs. First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General Emory,
Commanding First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps:

General: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the signal party serving with your command: On the march from Alexandria, La., the party was ready at all times to render such services as might be required. From the nature of the country no communication could be had by means of signals, yet the officers of the party frequently rendered assistance by carrying orders and by performing other staff duties.

At the battle of Mansfield, on the 8th instant, also at the battle of Pleasant Hill, on the 9th instant, signaling was impracticable, on account of the dense growth of timber on the battle-ground. Although unable to afford any assistance by this means, the officers of the party eagerly availed themselves of the opportunity to render

aid by carrying orders and by rallying the troops when the lines began to waver or were broken by the overwhelming force of the enemy. During the whole time the command was engaged the party was exposed to the fire of the enemy, but evinced no desire to avoid danger when an opportunity offered to encourage the troops to stand by their colors and resist the advancing foe. During the battle of the 8th instant the men of this party showed, by remaining exposed to the enemy's fire, that they did not lack courage to perform their duty, even when it required their presence in the midst of danger. No casualties occurred in the party, and it is at present in an excellent condition, and eager for active service.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. BAILEY,
First Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer, Comdg. Party.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT OF SIGNAL CORPS,
Alexandria, La., April 26, 1864.

Lieut. A. B. JEROME:

SIR: In obedience to Special Orders, No. 15, headquarters Signal Corps, New Orleans, April 11, 1864, I proceeded with my flagmen [and] signal equipments to Grand Ecore, La., and reported on the 16th to the chief signal officer, Department of the Gulf. April 20, I received Field Orders, No. 3, and reported on the 21st to General A. J. Smith, commanding Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, at Natchitoches, La. General Smith's command moved on the 22d, covering the retreat of the army from Grand Ecore. It was harassed by the enemy until it reached Alexandria, on the 25th, and fought them at Cloutierville and Cane River Crossing. By aid of signal glasses I was enabled, on several occasions, to discover important movements of the enemy, and reported the same, and acted as aide upon the field, bearing dispatches to different commands.

I was relieved from signal duty with the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps on 24th April, and reported to the signal officer at the headquarters of Major-General Banks. My flagmen were Sergeant Bailey and Privates Dix and Shoemaker.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. HALLETT,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HDQRS. SIGNAL DETACHMENT, 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., April 26, 1864.

Capt. FRANK W. MARSTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Gulf:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my party during the engagement at Cane River Ferry on the 22d [23d] day of April, 1864: I crossed Cane River and opened communication between General Banks' headquarters and the point at which General Birge's column crossed the river to attack the enemy's

flank. This line became unnecessary as soon as the column had passed into the timber some distance, at which time I reported to headquarters for further orders. Lieutenant Jerome directed me to take a position as near as possible to the enemy's line and open communication with General Birge's left flank. I advanced under cover of the timber to a position, where I opened the desired communication, and then made every effort to ascertain General Birge's position, which I did in a short time and transmitted it by signals. While so doing our forces charged the enemy and drove them from their position. I then pushed forward to the hill from which they had been driven, as it was a fine point from which to communicate with the commanding general. I there found Lieutenants Harris and Higbie, who had established a line and were doing good service. The enemy at this time commenced retreating and our forces pushed forward to the ferry, after which a line of signal communication was deemed unnecessary.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK A. IRVIN,
First Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

Headquarters Thirteenth Army Corps,
Alexandria, La., April 30, 1864.

Capt. Frank W. Marston,
Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Gulf:

Captain: I have the honor herewith to report that, in accordance with Special Orders, No. 76, issued from headquarters Nineteenth Army Corps, at Alexandria, La., March 26, 1864, I reported with my detachment to Brigadier-General Ransom, commanding detachment Thirteenth Army Corps. March 28, General Ransom's command left camp near Alexandria, marching toward Shreveport, passing through and camping near Natchitoches, La., some four days.

On the 8th instant, at the battle of Mansfield, Lieutenant Higbie and myself performed general staff duty, the nature of the country being such as to render signaling of but little advantage. Lieutenant Higbie rendered very efficient service by going in advance of our line of skirmish, learning the movements and position of the enemy and reporting the same to the general. During the engagement his horse was shot from under him. After the battle of Mansfield, General Ransom having been severely wounded, General R. A. Cameron took command of the detachment Thirteenth Army Corps, the army marching back toward Alexandria. On the 9th instant, at the battle of Pleasant Hill, we performed general staff duties.

On the morning of the 23d instant we left camp at a point some 3 miles southeast of Cloutierville, La., and when within 2 miles of Cane River Crossing our advance guard discovered a battery of the enemy, situated upon a hill on the opposite side of the river. Artillery was immediately brought forward, when both sides opened, continuing nearly an hour with but little damage to either side. The enemy having the advantage in position, the commanding general directed General Birge, commanding detachment Nineteenth Army Corps, and General Cameron, commanding detachment Thirteenth Army Corps, to cross the river at a point some 3 or 4 miles above the

enemy's position and charge him on his left flank, which was immediately done, General Birge being in advance, supported by General Cameron. When near the enemy the lines were formed and General Birge charged upon and drove him from a most formidable position, with heavy loss on both sides, capturing some 12 or 15 prisoners. Being with the advance, I immediately opened communication by signals with Lieut. A. B. Jerome, at Major-General Banks' headquarters, about 3 miles distant, on the opposite side of the river, transmitting a message from General Birge to the commanding general, announcing the result of the charge, and in return received a complimentary message from the general commanding to General Birge, ordering the pursuit of the enemy; after which, assisted by Lieutenant Higbie, transmitted and received several important official messages.

In the mean time the enemy made a stand on a hill in front of our station, it being about one-fourth mile distant, and when staff officers were running their horses to the rear for a position more secure, my flagman, Private Warren W. Palmer, stood at his post like a true and tried soldier, for which he deserves great credit.

On the night of the 25th instant we camped within 3 miles of Alexandria. On the 26th, opened a line of signals from General Cameron's headquarters to General Banks' headquarters; distance 3 miles. 27th, nothing of importance transpired. 28th, transmitted and received several important official messages. 29th and 30th, nothing doing on the line, the troops having moved near the town.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. A. HARRIS,

First Lieut. and Actg. Sig. Officer, Comdg. Detach. 13th A. C.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HDQRS. SIGNAL CORPS, DEPT. OF THE GULF,
May 1, 1864.

Capt. FRANK W. MARSTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Gulf:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 5th of April I was, by Field Orders, No. 2, Signal Corps headquarters, Department of the Gulf, ordered to the flag-ship Cricket to report to Admiral Porter, commanding Mississippi Squadron. The expedition moved up the river until we reaved [reached] a sunken steamer, which obstructed the channel. In returning we were constantly under fire from guerrillas and occasionally from considerable forces of the enemy. In one of the engagements I was slightly wounded. My men acted with the marines and were furnished with arms, acting as sharpshooters, and performed good service. No opportunity offered for signaling. On many occasions I directed the fire of artillery by aid of my glasses. I would respectfully call your attention to the gallant conduct of Privates Suydam and Hammond, who kept up a continued fire upon the enemy whenever occasion offered.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. JEROME,

First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

HDQRS. SIGNAL CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Alexandria, La., May 1, 1864.

Capt. FRANK W. MARSTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Gulf:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that during your absence the command of the detachment devolved upon me. Nothing of interest transpired until the morning of the 22d of April, when the headquarters of department moved with the army toward Alexandria, La. General A. J. Smith having the command of the rear guard, I ordered First Lieutenant Hallett to report to him for signal duty. Lieutenant Irvin remained with Major-General Franklin, and Lieutenants Harris and Higbie with Brigadier-General Cameron, in command of Thirteenth Army Corps. Lieutenant Benner remained with me at headquarters of the department. Nothing of interest transpired, with the exception of continuous skirmishing in the rear. The nature of the country prevented any communication with Lieutenant Hallett until the advance reached Cane River. The enemy occupied a formidable position upon the hills commanding the crossing. General Cameron's forces forded the river some 2 miles above, in order to flank the position. His engineers then commenced bridging the river, in order to pass over artillery and ammunition. I established a station at once at the bridge, Lieutenant Irvin fording the river in order to ascertain General Birge's position and keeping communication open with my station at the bridge. Lieutenant Benner was posted in the center, observing the enemy, and performed good service under a heavy fire of artillery. I then moved up with the general's headquarters, and shortly after saw a signal flag upon the hill, and answering it, received the following message:

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

General Birge's men took the hill about fifteen minutes ago, and are now pressing on. No signs of the enemy now in the front. Our loss is heavy. Colonel Fessenden wounded.

C. S. SARGENT,
Aide-de-Camp.

This was from Lieutenants Harris and Higbie and was the first information of the success of General Birge. Several messages of a complimentary character then passed, with others of importance, copies of which will be found attached to this report. The movements of the column attacking was entirely conducted by this line of signals, and the officers performed their duties under a heavy fire, unsupported, and with marked ability. The enemy did not further molest us, and the country was so densely wooded that signals could not be made until we reached Alexandria, La., on the 25th ultimo. The enlisted men of the detachment performed their duties efficiently throughout the march. Arriving at Alexandria, I immediately established a line of stations between the headquarters of the Thirteenth Army Corps and artillery and cavalry headquarters of the department. This line is still in operation, and many important messages are continually being transmitted. I have the honor to inclose the reports of Lieutenants Harris, Irvin, and Hallett.*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. JEROME,
First Lieut., Signal Corps, U. S. A., Comdg. Detachment.

* See pp. 243–245.

[Inclosure No. 7.]

SIGNAL DETACHMENT, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., May 3, 1864.

Capt. FRANK W. MARSTON,
Chief Signal Officer, Department of the Gulf:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following copy of messages received by me while on the station on the "Ice House:"

APRIL 28.

Captain MARSTON:

Heavy skirmishing in front. The cavalry report the enemy in force. This command is under arms.

HARRIS.

APRIL 28.

General CAMERON:

Maintain your position and I will send re-enforcements to the other generals.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

APRIL 28.

General ARNOLD:

Keep me informed of the enemy's movements.

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General, Commanding.

APRIL 28.

General BANKS:

My last reports are that Colonel Davis is 5 miles from town and falling back slowly. General McClernand has pushed his infantry forward to his support.

ARNOLD,
Brigadier-General.

APRIL 28.

COMMANDING OFFICER TWENTY-SECOND KENTUCKY INFANTRY:

You will report immediately with your regiment to your brigade commander.

J. A. McCLERNAND,
Major-General.

APRIL 28.

COMMANDING OFFICER TWENTY-FOURTH INDIANA INFANTRY:

You will report with your regiment immediately to General McClernand, in the front.

J. A. McCLERNAND,
Major-General.

MAY 2.

General BANKS:

The troops have bivouacked just in front of my line on the 28th. No one hurt. I don't think the enemy are in force equal to ours.

LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 2.

General McCLERNAND:

The troops have bivouacked just in front of my line on the 28th. No one hurt. I don't think the enemy are in force equal to ours.

LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK A. IRVIN,
First Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

No. 5.

Report of Col. George D. Robinson, Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, commanding Engineer Brigade.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *June* 13, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to make the following report of the engineer operations of my command during the late Red River campaign: On the morning of March 10, 1864, I started from Berwick Bay to join General Franklin's command, then stationed at Franklin, La. My command then consisted of the Third and Fifth Engineers, Corps d'Afrique, with seventeen wagons loaded with engineer tools. I reported for duty to Major-General Franklin on the 11th of March, and was ordered by him to go into camp and await further orders. On the 15th of March I received orders to be ready to march with the Nineteenth Army Corps on the following morning. Before starting upon the march the regiments (Third and Fifth Engineers) were reviewed by you. We found nothing to do in the way of building bridges or repairing roads until the army arrived at Vermillion Bayou on or about the 18th of March. Here we found that the bridge across the bayou, built by the Third Engineers in October, 1863, had been destroyed by the enemy, and it was necessary to construct another before our troops could cross. Notwithstanding my command had marched 18 miles that day, I set a portion of them at work as soon as we arrived at the bayou (about 5 p. m.), and at 9 p. m. I had a bridge constructed of sufficient strength to pass the whole army, with all the trains, and without causing any delay whatever. The position assigned to me in the order of march was near the center of the column, and so I found it necessary to make a detail of 1 officer and 30 privates, with two wagons of assorted tools, to accompany the advance brigade and repair the roads and bridges, in order that there might be no delay in passing the trains. By this plan the trains were always kept well closed up. Upon our arrival at Washington, La., March 20, I obtained two extra wagons from Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, chief quartermaster Nineteenth Army Corps. These wagons I sent forward with assorted tools and with 20 privates (carpenters), under command of First Lieutenant Bushnell, of the Third Engineers, and Second Lieutenant Bon, of the Fifth Engineers, with orders to accompany General Lee's cavalry and repair all the bridges between Washington and Alexandria. This work was performed by them in a manner highly satisfactory. From Washington to Alexandria my command performed a great amount of hard labor corduroying the roads, which had become terribly muddy and almost impassable, owing to recent heavy rains. I arrived at Alexandria on the 25th of March, and on the following morning I took the Third Engineers and proceeded to Bayou ———, on the Red River road, 7 miles above Alexandria, and rebuilt the bridge across that stream, which had been destroyed by the enemy two or three days before.

The pontoon bridge, in charge of Capt. John J. Smith, arrived at Alexandria on the 27th, having been about two days' march behind the army, owing to difficulty in procuring the necessary transportation at Berwick Bay and to the fact that many of his mules died on the road from distemper. At this place I detailed First Lieutenant Bushnell, of the Third Engineers, and Second Lieutenant

Bon, of the Fifth Engineers, to report to Captain Smith to assist him in the management of the bridge, and in this capacity they both rendered signal and important service throughout the whole campaign. On the morning of March 29, I left Alexandria at 6 a. m., with the two regiments and the pontoon train, with orders from Major-General Franklin (who left on the day before) to join him as soon as possible. I marched to Henderson's Hill, 18 miles, and encamped at 6 p. m., and shortly afterward received orders from General Franklin, who was then at Cane River, 15 miles distant, to move forward with the pontoon train through the pine woods that night, and report to him as soon as possible on the next morning. Accordingly at 8 p. m. I took the pontoon train, with the Fifth Engineers, and started through the pine woods for Cane River. The task seemed almost a hopeless one, as the night was intensely dark and the road crooked, and rendered almost impassable on account of the mud. In many places the road had to be corduroyed with brush and logs before the train could pass at all. It was also necessary to build fires all along the road at intervals of 50 or 60 yards in order to see the road. At 10 a. m. on the 30th March I reported to General Franklin, and he immediately ordered a detail from the Nineteenth Army Corps to help lay the bridge, as my own men were nearly worn out with the fatigue of marching. At 1 p. m. the bridge was ready to cross the trains. In laying the bridge we used nine bateaus, making a bridge 200 feet in length. This was the first time that this bridge had been laid, and it worked admirably. For strength and durability I regard it as the best pontoon bridge in use. The only objection to it is the difficulty in transportation. On the 31st, General Franklin ordered me to send forward the Third Engineers with the advance of the Nineteenth Army Corps, and to remain behind myself with the Fifth Engineers to take up the pontoon bridge as soon as all the troops and trains were crossed, and then report to him as soon as possible. The trains did not all get over until 10 p. m. of the 31st. As soon as all the trains had crossed I ordered the bridge to be taken up, and at 12 p. m. the bridge was all loaded and on the march. At 6 a. m. on the 1st of April I reported to Major-General Franklin at the upper crossing of Cane River, having marched nearly all night. At this place the river was fordable, and it was not necessary to lay the bridge. Here I found the Third Engineers awaiting my arrival. From this point to Natchitoches the road and bridges were in good order. My command arrived at Natchitoches on the 2d of April, and remained there in camp until the 6th, when I was ordered by General Franklin to march, with the Thirteenth Army Corps, on the road to Shreveport.

I arrived at Pleasant Hill on the 8th of April, after a very fatiguing march of three days. The roads were very bad, owing to the heavy rains, and had to be corduroyed in many places. At Pleasant Hill I received an order, at 3 p. m., from General Franklin to go into camp and move forward with my command on the following morning at 6 a. m., and report to him as soon as possible. At 12 p. m. I received orders from him to remain at Pleasant Hill until further orders; also heard of the disaster to our troops at Sabine Cross-Roads, and ordered my command to form in line of battle, and remained so until 12 m., April 9, when I received orders from General Franklin to move my command and train to Grand Ecore (35 miles back) without delay. I started immediately, marching all

night, and arrived at Grand Ecore on the 10th of April, at 12 m., and went into camp. On the 12th, I was ordered by Major-General Banks to have the pontoon bridge laid across Red River. There was not bridge enough to reach across the river, so I obtained a flat-boat, and, by cutting down the ends to a level with the pontoons and building a false bottom in it, made a bridge of sufficient length to reach across. This bridge was very useful to the army, as they were short of forage, and but little could be obtained from below, while on the north bank of the river there was corn in abundance, as that country had not been overrun by either our own troops or those of the enemy. On the 16th of April the transport steamer Black Hawk, through the carelessness or maliciousness of her pilot, ran through the bridge, completely destroying three of the pontoon boats. This damage, however, was repaired by the use of two Birago trestles and a small flat-boat. The bridge was kept down until the 21st of April, when it was taken up to move with the army to Alexandria. During this time I kept one company upon the bridge, day and night, to guard and keep it in repair, relieving them every six hours. On the 13th of April I was ordered by General Banks to take all my available force and construct an abatis and rifle-pits around Grand Ecore. I was engaged on this work until the 19th. On the 20th, I received orders from General Franklin to repair the road from Grand Ecore to Cane River, and to construct a crossing over the river at the nearest practicable point. I reconnoitered the road, which had never been much used, and found a good crossing about 2½ miles from Grand Ecore. I immediately ordered out 200 men, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall, of the Fifth Engineers, to build a bridge, and make approaches on both sides. This was all finished at 12 p. m. on the night of April 20.

On the 21st, I was ordered by General Franklin to take up the pontoon bridge and be ready to march at 5 p. m., immediately in rear of the advance brigade (General Birge's). I marched all that night and the following day, when we reached Cloutierville, only halting long enough to give the men time to make coffee, making about 35 miles in twenty-four hours. On the following morning (April 23) the enemy was found to be strongly posted in our front, at the lower crossing of Cane River, with a large force threatening our rear. General Franklin ordered me to place my troops in such a position as to be able to protect the trains of the army, in case the enemy attempted a flank movement on our left. This position I held until the crossing at Cane River had been secured by our troops, when I was immediately ordered forward to lay the bridge. At 7 p. m. the bridge was ready to pass the trains. The approaches to the bridge being very steep and difficult, I ordered three details, of 100 men each, to help the trains across the bridge. In this way all the trains were crossed before 12 m. on the following day (April 24). As soon as all the troops and trains had crossed I took up the bridge and resumed the march toward Alexandria, where I arrived on the night of April 25. On the following morning I received orders from Captain Palfrey, U. S. Engineers, and acting chief engineer Department of the Gulf, to remove all the barricades that had been erected in the streets of Alexandria, and to cut down all the timber within 1,200 yards of the city, and also to construct a battery for six guns on the Bayou Rapides road. This work was all accomplished on the 28th of April, and on the 29th I received orders from General Banks to report to Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, acting military engineer Nine-

teenth Army Corps, for the purpose of building a dam across Red River, to bring down the gun-boats, which were held above the rapids by reason of the low stage of water. At the request of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall, of the Fifth Engineers, and myself went with him to examine the rapids and fix upon a plan for a dam. Both Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall and myself advised that two dams should be built, one at the upper and one at the lower falls, fearing that one dam would not stand the pressure. Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, however, decided to build only one dam, and accordingly the dam was commenced on the morning of the 30th of April. The Third Engineers were employed in collecting and hauling the necessary material, and the Fifth Engineers in constructing the dam. The regiments were divided into two reliefs, which relieved each other every six hours, working day and night. Both officers and men worked with untiring zeal and energy. On the morning of the 9th of May, when the dam was nearly completed, the center portion gave way, owing to the enormous pressure of the water. There was, however, water enough still left on the lower rapids to admit the passage of the gun-boats. Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey then decided to adopt the plan originally recommended by Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall and myself of building a dam at the upper rapids. This was commenced on the afternoon of May 9, and on the 12th the water was raised sufficiently to admit the passage of all the gun-boats across the upper rapids, after which there was no further difficulty, and on the 13th the gun-boats were all below the lower rapids. I received orders May 13 from General Banks to march with the Nineteenth Army Corps on the Red River road.

On the 14th I was ordered to report with my command and the pontoon bridge to Brigadier-General Grover. I reported to him at 10 p. m., near Scraggy Point, on Red River, about 24 miles below Alexandria. From this point there had formerly been a road leading to Marksville, but it had not been used for a long time as a wagon road. I was ordered by General Grover to move forward on the following morning with a sufficient force to repair the road to Bayou Choctaw (4 miles distant), and to lay the pontoon bridge across the bayou. Upon examination I found that the road was not practicable for the trains of the army until repaired. I therefore ordered the Third Engineers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Harmount, to repair this road without delay, which was fully accomplished by 12 m. In the mean time I went forward to Bayou Choctaw with the pontoon bridge, in charge of Captain Smith, and two companies of the Fifth Engineers, in charge of Captain Morrison. This stream is narrow but deep, with very high banks. The bridge was laid and the approaches completed at 10 a. m., though the train did not arrive until 12 m. I left one company of the Third Engineers, under Captain Chamberlain, with orders to remain at the bridge until all the troops and trains had crossed, and then to take up the bridge and join me as soon as possible, which he did on the following morning at 4 a. m., having marched all night.

On arriving at Marksville (May 16) the enemy was found to be in force in our front, and indicating a desire to give battle. I formed my command in line of battle about 7 a. m., and took a position on the left of General Grover's command, and marched in this way until about 11 a. m., when the enemy was repulsed. The fighting was all done by the cavalry and artillery, so my troops were not engaged. Upon my arrival at Bayou De Glaize (about 10 p. m.) I

received orders from General Banks to move forward that night to Yellow Bush Bayou, 3 miles from Simsport, and lay the bridge across that stream. I arrived at the bayou at 4 a. m., May 17, where I found Colonel Lucas, commanding the advance guard, crossing his cavalry on a flat-boat. I immediately ordered a detail from the Third Engineers to lay the bridge, and at 6 a. m. everything was in readiness to cross the troops. I immediately ordered my command to move across and encamp near the end of the bridge, on the east bank of Yellow Bush Bayou. On the west bank of the bayou the enemy had constructed two formidable earth-works, designed to prevent the advance of our army from Simsport. About noon, May 17, I received orders from General Emory to reverse these works and make a tête-de-pont of them, and on the following day received orders from him to destroy the works entirely. At about 7 p. m., May 19, I received orders to take up the bridge as soon as General A. J. Smith's command had crossed, and at 2 a. m. the following morning I was informed by a staff officer from General Smith that his command had all crossed, and I ordered the bridge to be immediately taken up. At 4 a. m. the bridge was all loaded and the command ready to march. Crossed the Atchafalaya at about 8 a. m. and halted about 4 miles from Simsport, where I remained until 7 p. m., when I received orders from General Emory to resume the march on the road leading to Morganza. Marched all that night, and on the following morning (May 21) had to cut a road for about a mile through the woods at Tunica Bend, in order to allow the trains to pass. The old road, which was on the top of the levee, had been previously destroyed by the enemy in constructing a water battery at this point. After completing this road and giving the men time to make coffee, I again resumed the march and encamped that night at 10 p. m., with the Nineteenth Army Corps, about 6 miles from Morganza. I arrived at Morganza and went into camp on the 22d of May. On the following day I received orders from General Emory to furnish 100 men daily to do picket duty, and to take the rest of my command and construct embrasures and platforms along the levee for the artillery. These details I continued to furnish until the 30th, when I received orders from General Emory to report with my command to Captain Hains, U. S. Engineers, for the purpose of constructing a fort at Morganza. This work was laid out by Captain Hains, assisted by Captain Cannon, of the Third Engineers, and on the 31st the work was begun, in which my command is still engaged.

It is just that I should make some allusion to the services of officers during the campaign, and accordingly I mention the following as worthy of particular notice: Lieut. Col. U. B. Pearsall, commanding Fifth Engineers, for his untiring zeal and energy, and for the skill displayed by him in all the engineer operations of the command; Maj. Samuel Pollock and Capt. William H. Morrison, Fifth Engineers, for their skill and energy in constructing roads and bridges; Capts. Arnout Cannon and M. W. Morton, Third Engineers, for able and efficient services in reconnoitering and repairing roads and bridges; Capt. John J. Smith and First Lieut. A. F. Bushnell, of Third Engineers, for their skill and perseverance in the management of the pontoon train; First Lieut. J. William Haight, jr., adjutant of Third Engineers, for the able and efficient manner in which he performed his duties as acting assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. and Quartermaster J. N. Knight, Third

Engineers, for efficiency in the management of the engineer train. He died June 3, from disease contracted during the campaign.

Where all do well it is difficult to specify individual cases, but I think I should not be doing justice to a worthy and deserving officer if I did not make further mention of the services of Lieut. Col. U. B. Pearsall, of the Fifth Engineers, Corps d'Afrique. Throughout the whole campaign he labored with unceasing toil and devotion. The plan for building two dams across Red River, which from necessity was finally adopted, was originally proposed by him, and the success of the dam was, in my opinion, mainly due to his efforts. He labored day and night, almost without rest, and seeming to know nothing of fatigue. If the thanks of Congress are due to any one for the final success of this dam I believe they are due to him as much as to any one else. In conclusion, I would say that the organization of colored engineers is regarded as a complete success by all who have witnessed their operations. The credit of this is due to yourself, who have labored hard to bring them into their present state of efficiency, and I hope that Congress will soon make some substantial acknowledgment of your services in this department.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. D. ROBINSON,
Colonel Third Engs., Corps d'Afrique, Comdg. Eng. Brig.

Maj. D. C. HOUSTON,
Chief Engineer, Department of the Gulf.

No. 6.

Report of Lieut. Col. Uri B. Pearsall, Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Troops.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *August* 1, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with the request of the major-general commanding the department, I have the honor to submit the following report concerning the construction of the dam across Red River in the month of May last. I was in command of the Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry (formerly the Fifth Engineers, Corps d'Afrique) during the whole of the Red River campaign, my regiment forming a part of the engineer troops commanded by Col. George D. Robinson.

On the 29th of April this force was ordered to report to Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, then acting engineer Nineteenth Army Corps, for the purpose of constructing the dam above referred to. At the request of Colonel Bailey, Colonel Robinson and myself accompanied him to select the place for building the dam. After a thorough examination of the falls, Colonel Robinson and myself were of the opinion that two dams were necessary—one at the foot of the upper and the other at the foot of the lower falls. Colonel Bailey, however, decided that one would be sufficient, and accordingly we jointly selected the point at which the main dam was located.

On the morning of the 30th of April the troops selected for this duty were moved to convenient points near the dam and the work began at once. The force on the right bank consisted of the Ninety-seventh and Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, under command of Col. George D. Robinson, of the former regiment, and a detail of

400 men from the brigade of colored infantry, commanded by Colonel Dickey. On the left bank were the Twenty-ninth Maine, portions of One hundred and tenth and One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, and the pioneer corps of the Thirteenth Army Corps. Of the work on the left bank I know but little, my duties confining me exclusively to the right bank. At the commencement Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey placed me in charge of all the work on the right bank, which included the placing and the loading of the barges in the center of the river, together with the building of the "crib-dam" to the right bank. Colonel Robinson was designated by Colonel Bailey to procure necessary materials (for this purpose retaining the Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry), as also all necessary teams employed at this point. The remainder of the working forces were under my control.

The work progressed rapidly, as both officers and men became more confident of success than they were at the commencement, and on the afternoon of the 8th of May the channel was closed, with the exception of the three spaces of 20 feet each between the barges and a current of water under the second barge from the right bank, which was only partly loaded, it being our intention to merely scuttle it and place a sufficient amount of railroad iron on the top to prevent its rising up. Large braces were set diagonally up stream from the barges on each side, which, with large hawsers, were to prevent its being swept away, but the water rising rapidly, the weight proved insufficient for the purpose, and on the morning of the 9th it broke away, carrying with it the loaded barge nearest the right bank, both swinging in below and on the left-hand side of the new chute thus formed. This accident (so considered at the time) was in my opinion the most fortunate occurrence that could have taken place, those barges which were swept away serving to lengthen the chute and confine the volume of water passing through between them and the right bank, thus creating an artificial depth of water for the boats until they were fully below the ledge of rocks. They also answered as a "fender" to the boats and prevented their turning in passing through. The water was actually higher on the main dam when this took place than at any time afterward, and the navy, although not moving a single vessel until after the break occurred, were enabled to pass the gun-boats Lexington and Fort Hindman, also the light-draught monitors Neosho and Osage, over the falls above into the pond, and thence through the dam below in perfect safety.

At 7 o'clock on the morning of the 9th, Colonel Bailey directed me to leave a reliable officer in charge of tightening and repairing the remaining portion of the dam extending from the right bank, and then report to him in person on the same side of the river near the head of the falls, at which point he had decided to increase the depth of water by means of light wing-dams thrown out from each side. The forces moved from the lower or main dam consisted of detachments from the various regiments and the pioneer corps of Thirteenth Army Corps. The new plan was commenced with commendable vigor, the troops being employed in constructing the same as originally proposed until the afternoon of the 10th, which completed a temporary obstruction, close to each side of the channel, by means of light log cribs lashed together with rope and filled with brush and bricks. This work raised about 14 inches of water.

I will here state that in the mean time the gun-boat Chillicothe had managed to work her way through. The Carondelet attempted to

follow, but owing to the rapidity of the current, and also to the wing-dams not being placed perpendicular to the direction of the channel, she was forced aside and lay with her bow close below the end of the wing-dam extending from the left bank, her stern being down stream and pointing diagonally across the channel. Several attempts were made to haul her from this position, all of which failed, and the navy finally concluded her case a hopeless one and thought there was sufficient room alongside for the others to pass. The Mound City was accordingly ordered to try it, and grounded abreast of the Carondelet. Five more iron-clads were still above them.

Such, in brief, was the position of affairs on the afternoon of the 10th of May, as Major-General Banks will doubtless remember having a conversation with Colonel Bailey and myself at that time. It was at this crisis that Colonel Bailey asked me what could be done to relieve the boats. I replied in these words: "If you will allow me to build a dam where I please, on my own plan, and give me the men and materials I require, I will agree to put a foot of water under those boats (referring to the Mound City and Carondelet) by to-morrow night." He asked me what I required, and I told him the pioneer corps of the Thirteenth Army Corps to report to me at midnight to cross to the left bank, and that 10,000 feet of 2-inch plank should be there at 9 o'clock the next morning. Colonel Bailey agreed to this proposition, and accordingly about 1 a. m. of that night Captain Hutchens, commanding the pioneers, reported to me for duty. Immediate steps were taken to get across the river. I hailed every boat in the fleet to obtain cutters for this purpose, but the reply of all was, "wait until daylight." We were accordingly forced to do so, and it was sunrise before all were across to the opposite side. I immediately instructed the men in building two-legged trestles for a "bracket dam." They worked with even greater energy than ever before, and the trestles were all made by 9 a. m. Some pieces of iron bolts (size one-half inch) were procured and one set into the foot of the legs of each trestle; also one in the cap pieces at the end resting on the bottom, up stream. The place selected by me for this "bracket dam" was at a point opposite the lower end of the Carondelet, extending out close to this vessel from the left bank. A party of men, selected and headed by myself, placed these trestles in position there under very adverse circumstances, the water being about 4½ feet deep and very swift, and coupled with a very slippery bottom, making it almost impossible to stand against the current. Several men were swept away in this duty, but no lives were lost. The trestles were fastened as soon as they were in position by means of taking "sets" and driving the iron bolts above referred to down into the bottom. All were in position by 10 a. m., and the plank having arrived all that remained was to place them. This was done in less than an hour, and by 11 a. m. there was at least a foot of water thrown under the Mound City and the Carondelet and both vessels floated off easily before the ultimate height of water was obtained. The five remaining vessels passed with but little difficulty, and at noon on the following day were safe below the main dam at Alexandria.

Much has been said of the part taken by the navy in rescuing their fleet, and I deem it proper to state my honest convictions in regard to it. To Captain Langthorne, of the Mound City, and the subordinate officers and men employed with him, it must be ac-

knowledged great praise is due. In regard to any other efforts put forth by them I must say that none other were observed by me, and it seems incredible that much could have been done by them in my absence. I slept but twenty-nine hours during those twelve eventful days. My meals were almost invariably brought to me; therefore my presence was almost constant.

It may be said that the navy loaned ropes, made bolts, &c., but in so doing they performed the duties of the quartermaster's department only; while on the other hand, there is much in this report showing that they caused a delay of six hours at the most critical point of our operations, whereas if no delay had occurred in the building of the bracket dam that saved seven of their best iron-clads, the army could have moved a day sooner from Alexandria. These facts can be substantiated by many officers besides myself, and the impartial historian will [not], neither could, with propriety make any other record than that the army of General Banks saved the fleet of Admiral Porter.

In conclusion, I would beg leave to state that the project of building a dam across Red River, although difficult, could never have been pronounced impracticable by any men who followed a similar avocation in civil life. The bottom and shores being so extremely favorable, and official reports having been promulgated by the naval authorities asserting that Colonel Bailey was the only man in the army who believed the plan practicable, that he was the originator of it, &c., I deem it my sacred duty to refute such assertions so far as they concern myself, having waited three months to see it contradicted by others. The major-general commanding the department will recollect of my assurances to him in this respect ere the work had fairly begun. It can also be proved that it was pronounced feasible by me while at Grand Ecore. These statements are made in self-defense, without doubting that the credit justly belongs to others; yet were such statements substantiated against an officer like myself, after ten years of practical experience in building dams on the most difficult rivers in the country, it would be deemed sufficient evidence by me of my utter incompetency to hold my present position.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. B. PEARSALL,
Lieut. Col. Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 7.

Reports of Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin, U. S. Army, commanding the Nineteenth and detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6–25.

HDQRS. 19TH CORPS AND DETACH. 13TH CORPS,
Grand Ecore, April 14, 1864.

MAJOR: I make the following report of the operations of the troops under my command from the date of their leaving Natchitoches until their arrival at this place: The cavalry force, under Brigadier-General Lee, the detachment of the Thirteenth Corps, under Brigadier-General Ransom, and the division of the Nineteenth Corps, under Brigadier-General Emory, left Natchitoches on Wednesday, the 6th

instant, in the order in which they are mentioned. Part of the cavalry had already encamped some 10 miles out, and the remainder, after joining the advance, proceeded in the direction of Pleasant Hill, encamping about 10 miles this side of Pleasant Hill. General Lee's advance was accompanied by severe skirmishing. On the 7th instant General Lee drove the enemy through Pleasant Hill and encamped on a stream about 8 miles toward Mansfield, after an obstinate skirmish. Colonel Clark, an aide-de-camp of the commanding general, joined me on the 6th, and visited General Lee on the 7th. General Ransom's command arrived at Pleasant Hill about 2 p. m. on the 7th, and General Emory's about 5 p. m. A heavy rain had fallen toward the rear of the column during the day, making the road so bad that General Emory's train, after most strenuous exertions, could not be brought in until late on the morning of the 8th instant. On the evening of the 7th instant I was informed by Colonel Clark that General Lee was anxious to have a brigade of infantry sent out to his assistance. I declined to send the brigade, for reasons which I considered good. The commanding general arrived at my camp on the evening of the 7th instant. At 11 p. m. I was directed to send a brigade of infantry to General Lee, to reach him by daylight. The brigade started at 3 a. m. from General Ransom's command.

At 5.30 a. m. on the 8th, General Ransom marched with the remainder of his command to encamp where General Lee encamped the night before. General Emory was directed to go to the same place when his men had had something to eat. General Ransom's command, with my consent, marched about 2 miles beyond the point indicated, and there went into camp. Just as they arrived there, about 10 a. m., I received a note from General Lee, asking for another brigade of infantry, on account of the exhausted state of that with him. I dispatched another immediately, and General Ransom went with it. About this time the commanding general arrived and went to the front. I staid near General Cameron's division, the remaining one of General Ransom's command, until 3.15 p. m., when I received an order from the commanding general to move to the front with all of my infantry. General Cameron started immediately, and arrived on the field, 5 miles distant, at 4.15 p. m. I arrived at the same time, and immediately placed the division at such points as I thought were proper for holding the ground for which we were then contending. The state of things upon my arrival was discouraging, and as the enemy far outnumbered the infantry force, in a short time the infantry broke, after a gallant fight, and went to the rear. The enemy had turned both flanks and advanced in front, so that before I left the field he was already in rear of the position occupied when I arrived. The road was badly obstructed by the train of the Cavalry Division, and we lost from General Ransom's command ten guns, which could not be hauled away. Before the rout became general I had ordered General Emory to form his division across the road in the first good position that he could find. I found him in the act of forming his line when I arrived, about 2 miles in rear of the field. Here he was most strenuously attacked by the enemy, who made vigorous charges against his front and flanks. He repelled them all with great loss to the rebels, and remained at night-fall master of the position. During the night the whole force retreated to Pleasant Hill, General Emory's division forming the rear guard.

On the 9th instant General Emory's division was posted on the right and front of the Pleasant Hill position, one brigade of General Smith's troops relieving one of General Emory's brigades on or near the Mansfield road, about 10 a. m. Nothing important was heard from the enemy until 5 p. m., when a furious attack was made on General Emory's left. This gave way after a hard fight, and the rebels at one time seemed to have possession of the whole plain; but their advance was severely checked by a flank fire from one of General Smith's regiments posted in a wood on the left, and they in turn were driven from the plain and for 1½ miles along the Mansfield road. The remainder of General Emory's line fought handsomely during the whole day, and the enemy was driven back along the whole line with the loss of two guns. During the night the army retreated toward this place, and arrived here on the 11th instant.

I transmitted yesterday a list of the casualties.* The behavior of officers and men was excellent. I beg leave particularly to call the attention of the commanding general to the conduct of Generals Emory and Dwight, which was admirable in all respects. I regret to report the loss of Col. L. Benedict, One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, killed while leading his brigade, and of Captain Chapman, of my staff, who had both feet taken off by a round shot. Brigadier-General Ransom was severely wounded while commanding his troops in the first action. I shall take a future occasion to make a more detailed report and mention of the names of officers and men who distinguished themselves.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces commanded by Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin, U. S. Army, at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill, La., April 8 and 9, 1864.

[Compiled from nominal list of casualties furnished by General Franklin.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS (DETACHMENT).							
Brig. Gen. THOMAS E. G. RANSOM. *a* Brig. Gen. ROBERT A. CAMERON.							
Staff			2				2
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. ROBERT A. CAMERON. Col. WILLIAM H. RAYNOR.							
Provost guard.							
24th Iowa, Company F			1	4		1	6

a Wounded April 8.

* Embodied in table following.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS, &c.—Continued.							
First Brigade.							
Lieut. Col. AARON M. FLORY.*a* Maj. BRADFORD HANCOCK.							
46th Indiana	1	7	2	10	3	83	106
29th Wisconsin (five companies)	....	5	1	11	....	43	60
Total First Brigade	1	12	3	21	3	126	166
Second Brigade.							
Col. WILLIAM H. RAYNOR.							
24th Iowa (five companies)	.....	1	.....	14	3	17	35
28th Iowa	.....	8	3	38	2	24	75
56th Ohio	.....	2	.....	14	1	18	35
Total Second Brigade	.....	11	3	66	6	59	145
Total Third Division	1	23	8	91	9	186	318
FOURTH DIVISION.							
Col. WILLIAM J. LANDRAM.							
First Brigade.							
Col. FRANK EMERSON.*b* Maj. FRANCIS A. SEARS.							
77th Illinois	1	5	.....	29	10	126	171
67th Indiana	.....	4	1	19	1	17	42
19th Kentucky	.....	2	3	15	17	214	251
23d Wisconsin	.....	7	.....	16	.....	41	64
Total First Brigade	1	18	4	79	28	398	528
Second Brigade.							
Col. JOSEPH W. VANCE.*b* Lieut. Col. ALBERT H. BROWN.							
130th Illinois	.....	2	3	20	9	223	257
48th Ohio	.....	.....	1	4	9	165	179
83d Ohio	1	.....	2	6	.....	22	31
96th Ohio	1	3	3	20	2	28	57
Total Second Brigade	2	5	9	50	20	438	524
Artillery.							
Chicago (Illinois) Mercantile Battery	1	1	1	2	2	21	28
Indiana Light, 1st Battery	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	2	5
Total artillery	1	1	1	5	2	23	33
Total Fourth Division	4	24	14	134	50	859	1,085
Total Thirteenth Army Corps	5	47	24	225	59	1,045	1,405

a Wounded April 8.
b Wounded and captured April 8.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS.							
Maj. Gen. WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN.[a]							
Staff			3				3
FIRST DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. EMORY.							
First Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT.							
29th Maine		1		26			27
114th New York		3	3	10		4	20
116th New York		2	2	27		3	34
153d New York		1		28		4	33
161st New York	1	8	4	39		38	90
Total First Brigade	1	15	9	130		49	204
Second Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. JAMES W. MCMILLAN.							
13th Maine		5	1	29		20	55
15th Maine		1	3	13		11	28
160th New York	2	6	4	23		9	44
47th Pennsylvania	1	6		34			41
Total Second Brigade	3	18	8	99		40	168
Third Brigade.							
Col. LEWIS BENEDICT.[b] Col. FRANCIS FESSENDEN.							
30th Maine	1	10	3	55		69	138
162d New York	3	13	3	45	1	46	111
165th New York		3	3	21		70	97
173d New York		4	1	38	2	155	200
Total Third Brigade	4	30	10	159	3	340	546
Artillery.							
New York Light, 25th Battery		2		3			5
1st United States, Battery L		2	1	4			7
Vermont Light, 1st Battery				1			1
Total artillery		4	1	8			13
Total First Division	8	67	28	396	3	429	931
Total Nineteenth Army Corps	8	67	31	396	3	429	934
CAVALRY DIVISION.[c]							
Brig. Gen. ALBERT L. LEE.							
First Brigade.							
Col. THOMAS J. LUCAS.							
16th Indiana (mounted infantry)	1	2	2	17		32	55
2d Louisiana (mounted infantry)	1			11		19	31
6th Missouri		1	5	10		3	19
14th New York		4	1	18	2	17	42
Total First Brigade	2	8	8	56	2	71	147

a Also in command of the detachment Thirteenth Army Corps and Lee's cavalry.
b Killed April 9.
c Losses at Wilson's Plantation, April 7, also included.

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS, &c.—Continued.							
Third Brigade.							
Col. HARAI ROBINSON.[a]							
87th Illinois (mounted infantry)	.....	4	2	13	.....	2	21
1st Louisiana	.....	4	4	27	1	13	49
Total Third Brigade	.....	8	6	40	1	15	70
Fourth Brigade.							
Col. NATHAN A. M. DUDLEY.							
2d Illinois	.....	2	1	39	.....	3	45
3d Massachusetts	.....	8	1	51	.....	11	71
31st Massachusetts (mounted infantry)	.....	3	1	38	.....	16	58
8th New Hampshire (mounted infantry)	.....	2	.....	22	1	31	56
Total Fourth Brigade	.....	15	3	150	1	61	230
Fifth Brigade.							
Col. OLIVER P. GOODING.							
2d New York Veteran	.....	.....	1	5	.....	.....	6
18th New York	1	1	1	9	.....	2	14
3d Rhode Island (detachment)	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Total Fifth Brigade	1	1	2	15	.....	2	21
Artillery.							
Massachusetts Light, 2d Battery (B)	.....	1	2	16	.....	1	20
5th United States, Battery G	.....	4	.....	13	.....	.....	17
Total artillery	.....	5	2	29	.....	1	37
Total Cavalry Division	3	37	21	290	4	150	505
Grand total Franklin's command	16	151	76	911	66	1,624	2,844

[a] Wounded April 8.

—

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES WESTERN LOUISIANA,
Grand Ecore, April 18, 1864.

MAJOR: In mentioning the officers of my staff who were wounded in the battle of the 8th instant, I inadvertently neglected Captain Pigman, signal officer on my staff. This officer distinguished himself by his gallantry in the first part of the fight, and was severely wounded at the point where General Emory's division repulsed the enemy in his final attack.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Hdqrs. 19th A. C. and U. S. Forces Western La.,
Alexandria, La., April 29, 1864.

Major: I have the honor to submit the follow brief report of the march of the troops of this command from Grand Ecore to this place:

The march was commenced at 5 p. m. on Thursday, April 21, and in the order prescribed by General Orders, No. 39, headquarters Nineteenth Army Corps, &c., Grand Ecore, April 21, 1864. Colonel Gooding's brigade of cavalry preceded the column; that commanded by Colonel Davis flanked it on the right bank of Cane River, and that of Colonel Lucas acted as rear guard. The road taken crossed Cane River 2 miles below Grand Ecore, and followed the left bank of that stream to Monett's Ferry. The crossing of the trains was completed at 1.30 o'clock on the morning of Friday, the 22d, and the rear of the column which marched from Grand Ecore was crossed in little more than an hour from that time. The command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, with Lucas' cavalry, marching from Natchitoches, crossed Cane River at that place, and fell in rear of the column at about 5 a. m. From this time the march was pursued in good order and without interruption or incident, except slight skirmishing with the rear guard, until 3 p. m. of the same day, when word was received from Brigadier-General Smith that his troops were in line of battle and that the enemy was pressing him heavily. Upon this the remaining troops in rear of the trains (the commands of Brigadier-Generals Emory and Cameron) were formed in line, but the attack on the rear not proving formidable, the march in column was resumed at about 4 p. m. At 9 p. m. the column was halted for the night, the rear resting near Cloutierville, and Colonel Gooding's cavalry and the infantry under Brigadier-General Birge having reached Monett's Ferry, where the enemy was found to be posted, with artillery, on the south bank of the river in a strong position to dispute the crossing. Brigadier-General Birge had received orders to press rapidly forward to the ferry, and if possible to seize the crossing that night. This he was unable to do on account of the strong position of the enemy and the fatigue of his own troops, who had marched 35 miles in twenty-four hours.

At daylight on the morning of Saturday, the 23d, the commands of Brigadier-Generals Emory and Cameron continued their march to the ferry, when, pursuant to orders from these headquarters, Brigadier-General Emory assumed command of the troops and movements at the crossing. A battery of the enemy's artillery was found to be posted on a high wooded crest on the opposite bank, and in a sharp bend of the stream, 1½ miles above the ferry. To dislodge him from this position Brigadier-General Birge was sent with his command, consisting of his own brigade and the Third Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Corps, supported by Brigadier-General Cameron and his command, to cross Cane River 2 miles above the enemy's position and to turn his flank. This task was ably performed. General Birge carried the crest by a charge, after a sharp fight, and continued his progress toward the bluff at the crossing, where before this time the enemy had disclosed seven or eight pieces of artillery in position fully commanding the ferry and the whole open plain on the north side. From this position also the enemy was driven by the troops under General Birge, aided by the effective fire from five pieces of artillery under command of Captain Closson, chief of artillery Nineteenth Corps, planted in the edge of the woods

which bounded the plain on the north side of the river. No further opposition was made to our crossing. The enemy fled precipitately, pursued by one regiment of cavalry and the command of Brigadier-General Cameron. The pontoon bridge was laid shortly after dark, and the crossing of troops and trains was continued during the night, two brigades of the Nineteenth Corps being pushed forward some 6 miles to cover the train stretched out on the road. The crossing was completed at 2 p. m. on Sunday, the 24th. Throughout the forenoon the rear guard of General Smith's command was closely pressed by the enemy's cavalry, and was several times severely engaged. The enemy was, however, in every instance repulsed with a considerable loss of men and some artillery dismounted. The crossing being completed, the pontoon bridge was taken up, and the march was continued without further interruption or annoyance. The route taken from Cane River was by the crossing of Bayou Cotile at its mouth, on Red River, and thence to Henderson's Hill by the Cotile road. The troops were halted and encamped for the night between Henderson's Hill and Bayou Rapides. The march was resumed the next morning (Monday, the 25th) at 6 o'clock. The head of the column reached Alexandria (a distance of 20 miles) at 2 p. m., and the whole column was encamped in and about the town before night.

The troops performed the whole of this harassing and tedious march from Grand Ecore in good order and without demoralization, the only exception being such acts of marauding and incendiarism by stragglers in advance of the column as are incident to the retreat of a large army. Every effort has been and is being made to discover the perpetrators of these outrages, to whom the severest punishment will be awarded upon detection.

Very respectfully, yours,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Special field return of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, and detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, after the action of April 8, 1864, at Sabine Cross-Roads, La.

Troops.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	Effective strength next day.		
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		Officers.	Men.	Total.
Nineteenth Army Corps:										
First Division (infantry)	2	22	10	138	1	174	347	243	4,910	5,153
153d New York Volunteers (guarding train).								31	605	636
First Division (artillery)								9	348	357
Thirteenth Army Corps (detachment):										
General and staff	1		1							
Third Division:										
Infantry	1	23	6	78	9	198	315	77	1,475	1,552
Artillery								2	173	175

Special field return of the First Division, &c.—Continued.

Troops.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	Effective strength next day.		
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		Officers.	Men.	Total.
Thirteenth Army Corps (detachment)—Continued.										
Fourth Division:										
Commanding officer and escort.	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Infantry	2	23	6	82	59	929	1,101	56	1,418	1,474
Artillery	.....	.....	1	5	3	24	33	5	204	209
Staff of the major-general commanding.	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....
Aggregate	6	68	27	304	72	1,325	1,799	423	9,133	9,556

HDQRS. 19TH ARMY CORPS AND U. S. FORCES WESTERN LOUISIANA,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 8.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas E. G. Ransom, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6–8.

NEW YORK CITY, *June* 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of the troops under my command, consisting of the Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, Brig. Gen. R. A. Cameron commanding, and the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, Col. W. J. Landram commanding, on the 6th, 7th, and 8th of April, 1864:

On the 6th of April my detachment, having the advance of the infantry column, moved from Natchitoches at 6 a. m., in rear of the Cavalry Division, and being constantly delayed by the baggage train of the latter, went into camp late on Bayou Mayon, having marched 16 miles on the Pleasant Hill road. Moved at 5.30 a. m. on the 7th, the head of the column arriving at Pleasant Hill, 19 miles, at 2 p. m., overtaking the cavalry train on the road and Dudley's brigade of cavalry at Pleasant Hill. When these had moved from our camping-ground I went into camp about 4 p. m., though my train and rear guard did not arrive until late at night. At 10 p. m. of the 7th, I received an order, of which the following is a copy:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES WESTERN LOUISIANA,
April 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. E. G. RANSOM,
Commanding Detachment Thirteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that a brigade of infantry be sent to General Lee, to be with him by daylight to-morrow morning. You may use your discretion as to sending a brigade or division. The spirit of the order will doubtless be carried out by sending a division. Send, therefore, a brigade or division to report to General Lee at or before 5 a. m. on to-morrow (Friday), 8th instant.

Respectfully,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General.

I immediately sent Col. W. J. Landram, commanding Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, the following order:

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pleasant Hill, La., April 7, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Col. W. J. LANDRAM,
Commanding Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: In obedience to the inclosed order, you will move at 3 a. m. to-morrow with the First Brigade of your division, and report to General Lee, 8 miles in front, at daylight or as soon thereafter as practicable.

By order of Brig. Gen. T. E. G. Ransom:

C. E. DICKEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Colonel Landram moved with the First Brigade of his division and reported to General Lee at daylight on the 8th. Under orders from Major-General Franklin, I moved the remainder of the corps forward at 5.30 a. m., and arrived with the advance at Saint Patrick's Bayou, 10 miles, at 10.30 a. m., our march having, as before, been retarded by the cavalry train. General Franklin had previously designated this creek as my camping-ground, and I accordingly ordered the Third Division and the Second Brigade of the Fourth Division into camp at 10.45 a. m. Before the order had been complied with a request was received from General Lee for more infantry to relieve that already with him, and General Franklin directed me to send forward the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Col. J. W. Vance commanding, to relieve the First Brigade, who were reported as worn out with hard skirmishing and marching. The Second Brigade moved forward at 11 a. m., and, at my request, General Franklin authorized me to go to the front and see that the First Brigade was relieved by the Second. I immediately went forward, and on the road received a dispatch, of which the following is a copy:

12 NOON.

General RANSOM:

My men have skirmished and marched through the bushes and thickets for 8 or 9 miles, making in all a march of 15 or 16 miles. They have no water, and are literally worn out. Can you have them relieved soon? General Lee insists on pushing ahead.

W. J. LANDRAM,
Colonel, Commanding Fourth Division.

The infantry finding much difficulty in passing the cavalry train, which obstructed the road, I went on in advance of them, and arrived at the front, 5½ miles from Saint Patrick's Bayou, about 1.30 p. m. I found that our forces had just driven the enemy across an open field, and were shelling him from a fine position on a ridge, which Colonel Landram occupied with his infantry and Nims' battery about 2 p. m. It was determined to halt here in order to allow the Second Brigade to come up and relieve the First. In company with Brigadier-General Stone and Lieutenant Higbie, signal officer, I went to the front of the line of skirmishers and carefully reconnoitered the position of the enemy. We were able to perceive two batteries and a large force of infantry in line of battle in the edge of the woods, from one-half to three-fourths of a mile to our front, and also considerable bodies of infantry moving down the road leading to our right and rear.

Hearing of the arrival of Major-General Banks and staff upon the field, about 3 p. m. I reported to him and advised him of the posi-

tion and apparent strength of the enemy, and from him received instructions as to the disposition of my troops then on the field and of those momentarily expected. Upon the arrival of the Second Brigade the positions of two of its regiments, the Eighty-third and Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, were assigned by Major Lieber, of General Banks' staff, on the opposite flank from that determined on by General Banks and myself, and in a position where I should not have placed them. The infantry on the right of the road occupied a narrow belt of timber dividing two large plantations, and having open though broken ground in front and in the rear cultivated fields, which descended to a small creek, and thence arose to the edge of the timber one-half mile to the rear of our line. Nims' battery was posted on a hill near the road about 200 yards to the left of the belt of timber, and was supported by the Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, which was on the left and behind the crest of the hill with open fields in front. The Sixty-seventh Indiana supported the battery on the right, joined by the Seventy-seventh Illinois, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, Forty-eighth Ohio, Nineteenth Kentucky, Ninety-sixth Ohio, a section of mounted artillery, and the Eighty-third Ohio, making in all 2,413 infantry. The cavalry and mounted infantry, under General Lee, were posted on the flanks and rear, having Colonel Dudley's brigade on the left and Colonel Lucas' on the right, and also skirmishers deployed in front of the infantry. The skirmishing continued throughout the afternoon, becoming sharp on the right about 2.30 p. m. At this time Colonel Lucas reported that his skirmishers on the extreme right were driven in, and that a few of his men on that flank were captured. About 4 p. m. the enemy commenced advancing his lines across the open fields in our front and east of the road. I directed Colonel Landram to advance our right, consisting of the Eighty-third, Ninety-sixth, and Forty-eighth Ohio, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, and Nineteenth Kentucky, and he immediately opened fire on the enemy, now in good range and advancing in two lines. We drove back his first line in confusion upon his second, but recovering he again advanced till, unable to endure our heavy fire, he halted about 200 yards from our front, where many of his men laid down and returned our fire. I felt confident that this portion of our line could not be broken, but while moving toward the left flank I was informed that the enemy were pressing our left and that the mounted infantry there were falling back.

At this time Captain White, chief of artillery, reported that the Chicago Mercantile Battery, Lieutenant Cone commanding, and the First Indiana Battery, Captain Klauss commanding, had arrived, and I directed him to place them in an advantageous position on a ridge to the east of the road and near a house occupied as General Banks' headquarters, when they opened on the enemy, who had shown himself in strong force on the left. I sent Lieut. G. I. Davis, aide-de-camp, to order Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin, commanding Eighty-third Ohio, to move his regiment to the support of the Twenty-third Wisconsin. He moved promptly, but the Twenty-third Wisconsin and the mounted infantry were already driven back, and I directed him to support the batteries. Our left flank was now completely turned, and the enemy, having taken Nims' battery, were in strong force on the hill and pouring a destructive fire into the batteries of the Fourth Division. I ordered the latter to the rear to a point on the right of the road and sent Captain Dickey, my assistant adjutant-

general, to order Colonel Landram to withdraw his division to the edge of the timber in our rear. Captain Dickey was to send aides to the different regiments to give them the orders direct in case he should not find Colonel Landram, but while in the performance of this duty this gallant officer fell senseless from his horse, mortally wounded. Owing to the loss of Captain Dickey before he had communicated my orders, some of the regiments did not receive them till they were surrounded and their retreat cut off while they were gallantly fighting a superior force in front. In company with Colonel Landram, I was, as the troops arrived, reforming the line in the edge of the woods, when I was severely wounded in the knee and carried to the rear. I found the woods and road filled with mounted men, flying in confusion from the field.

I desire here to bear witness to the gallantry of Brigadier-General Stone, who was on the left of the line with General Lee. He used the small force of infantry to the best advantage in bravely but unsuccessfully endeavoring to repulse the overwhelming force of the enemy. Colonel Landram, commanding Fourth Division, was conspicuous and everywhere present encouraging all by his own gallant conduct and judicious dispositions of his men. His efforts were ably seconded by Colonel Vance, Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, who was killed, and by Colonel Emerson, of the Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry, commanding First Brigade, who was wounded and taken prisoner. I was an eye-witness of the bravery and soldierly bearing of Lieutenant-Colonel Cowan and Major Mann, of the Nineteenth Kentucky, Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin, Eighty-third Ohio, Major Bering, Forty-eighth Ohio, Major Reid, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, and know the gallantry with which their men repulsed the enemy in his first attack. The Twenty-third Wisconsin, Major Greene commanding, Sixty-seventh Indiana, Major Sears commanding, and the Seventy-seventh Illinois, Major Burdett commanding, are reported to me by Generals Stone and Lee to have acted nobly, meeting steadily the assaults of a very superior force of the enemy. I desire here to thank the officers of my staff, Dr. J. S. McGrew, surgeon-in-chief, Captain Buel, aide-de-camp, Capt. P. H. White, chief of artillery, Lieutenant Tredway, aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Davis, aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Richardson, acting inspector-general, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hatch, assistant quartermaster, all of whom performed their whole duty and rendered me valuable assistance. Lieutenants Higbie and Harris, signal officers, Captain Vilas and Lieutenants Ayres and Landram, of Colonel Landram's staff, were also distinguished for praiseworthy conduct.

The Chicago Mercantile Battery, Lieutenant Cone commanding, and the First Indiana Battery, Captain Klauss commanding, went promptly into action and behaved with gallantry. When the second line was broken, notwithstanding their great loss in men and horses, they would have brought off their guns in safety had it not been that our line of retreat was blocked up by the train of the cavalry. Captain White, chief of artillery, was in this battle, as in all others, distinguished for coolness and excellent judgment. He was captured with Lieutenant Cone while endeavoring to save the battery. I regret to find it my duty to record the disgraceful conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Lindsey, of the Forty-eighth Ohio Infantry, whom I saw at some distance in the rear of his regiment lying behind a fallen tree, while his veteran regiment was in the thickest of the fight under the lamented Major Bering. The conduct of the troops

under my command was all that I could ask. They repulsed a superior force in their front, and but for the movement of a large body of the enemy upon our left flank, which could not be prevented by the force at our command, would have held the first line, and with the assistance of General Cameron's (Third) division could have checked the enemy till the arrival of the Nineteenth Corps.

Soon after I was wounded General Cameron arrived with the Third Division, and took command of the detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps. For further details of the battle and for the particulars of the casualties you are respectfully referred to his report and that of Colonel Landram. My thanks are due to both of these distinguished officers for the valuable assistance and hearty co-operation in my plans which they uniformly rendered me while under my command, and for the able manner in which they conducted the affairs of their respective divisions in camp, on the march, and in battle.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. E. G. RANSOM,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 9.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Robert A. Cameron, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division and detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6–23.

CAMP OF DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 11, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report to you, in reply to your communication of the 10th, asking for a report of the orders governing my movements on the 9th instant:

At 11 a. m. I was instructed by Major-General Franklin to take a road leading to Crump's Hill by a detour of 2 miles, following and covering a large wagon train. I moved at 12 m., and at 2 p. m. was about 2½ miles on the road, when I received a verbal order from some person, to me unknown, from your headquarters, directing me to watch and protect our left flank and carefully cover the train, and for that purpose to halt until the train had advanced out of the way of danger. At 5 o'clock I was 4½ miles from Pleasant Hill, but received no orders, although I could distinctly hear the firing of musketry. I received no orders during the remainder of the day except a note from General Lee, at 2 a. m. of the 10th, a copy of which I inclose.*

R. A. CAMERON,
Brig. Gen. of Vols., Comdg. Detach. 13th Army Corps.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf.

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* Not found as an inclosure.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 11, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major Lieber, judge-advocate of the Department of the Gulf, the officer who carried verbal instructions from these headquarters to Brigadier-General Cameron.

By command of Major-General Banks:

GEO. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Mr. Le Duc, volunteer aide-de-camp, desiring statement of any information he may have on the subject of General Cameron's movements.

By command of Major-General Banks:

GEO. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major von Herrmann and Lieutenants Sargent and Simpson.)

ADDENDA.

(No. 1.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Camp near Grand Ecore, April 11, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE, *Asst. Adjt. Gen.:*

MAJOR: The report of Brigadier-General Cameron in regard to the instructions he received on the 9th instant having been referred to me, I have the honor to submit the following: In obedience to orders received from Brigadier-General Stone on the afternoon of that day (I think about 2 o'clock), I rode out on the road leading from Pleasant Hill to (I believe) Crump's Hill, on which General Cameron was then marching, overtook him when, in person, about a half of a mile, possibly three-quarters of a mile, from the brick house on the edge of the clearing, near which the major-general commanding was then stationed, and communicated to him the following instructions: I said in substance precisely as follows, and as nearly as I remember in these words: "General Cameron, General Stone directs that you march your command out on this road until the rear of your column shall have passed the brick house about half of a mile; that you there halt your command and place it so as best to protect the left flank of our army." General Cameron then informed me that there was a branch road of the Fort Jesup road leading into that road about 4 miles farther out, and asked me whether he had not best march his command to that point. I informed him that I had no instructions upon that point, and he said that he would halt, as directed, but wished me to report the fact to General Stone. He then wished to know how long he was to remain there. I told him that neither had I any instructions upon that point, but presumed that he would be relieved by further orders, and that I would report upon this also to General Stone. I met General Stone on my way back and reported. I believe my report then will agree exactly with this statement. I am utterly at a loss to conceive how General Cameron could have understood me to say

anything about protecting the train. I said nothing whatever about the train, nor anything that could have been construed as relating to it. The above were the only subjects referred to in the conversation, and comprised the instructions I received.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. NORMAN LIEBER,
Major, Judge-Advocate.

(No. 2.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, April 11, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report to you, in reply to your communication of this date, asking information on General Cameron's movements, the following particulars: I was sent to find General Cameron at about 12 noon on the 9th instant, to tell him to send a line of skirmishers in his front, and send news to Major-General Banks frequently as to his position and proceedings. I went about 1½ miles on a road to the left, where I met pickets and vedettes, who did not know where General Cameron was. I met a commissioned officer, to me unknown, who told me, on inquiring, that he had seen General Cameron moving on the right and in the rear of where we were. I reported the same to General Banks, who told me to go and tell it to General Stone, who was in the center of the field. After telling him he told me to go with him. We went about 1 mile, when we met with Major Lieber, who reported to General Stone about General Cameron. Then we returned to the field. I was sent again at 5.30 in the afternoon (as we began to drive the enemy away from us) to go to General Cameron and give him orders to advance his forces on the left so as to flank the enemy. I went to the left, and at about a quarter of a mile from Major-General Banks, at the edge of the wood, I met Colonel Wilson and asked him if he had seen General Cameron or any of his forces. He replied that he had seen no force whatever there, and he remarked that I had been ordered to find him some time before. I told the colonel it was five or six hours since I had reported from that first expedition, and also that we were driving the enemy. I then went farther in the direction where General Stone and myself had met Major Lieber, and found three pieces of the Vermont battery in the rear of the left. I asked them who was on their left, and the lieutenant told me there was no force whatever there. I went farther, and as I could find nothing of General Cameron I came and reported to General Banks that I could not find General Cameron. By this time everything was quiet on the left, and we were repulsing the enemy on the front and the right lively.

ALPHONSE LE DUC,
Volunteer Aide-de-Camp to Major-General Banks.

(No. 3.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, April 12, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf:

MAJOR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to state that, on the 9th of April, about 5 p. m., just when the successful bayo-

net charge made by General Mower's brigade had commenced, I was ordered by the general commanding to proceed to Brigadier-General Cameron, with the major-general's order to the effect "that he should march his brigade to the front to support our left wing, engaged in action."

I went off and rode southward of those two brick houses near which the general commanding had been staying during the greater part of the day, toward the road which runs in a direction parallel with the main road, and which I knew General Cameron had been ordered to protect. I could not see any infantry nor the general himself. The cavalry officers I inquired of told me the general had "already gone." I was about to inquire further as First Lieutenant Sargent appeared with orders to repeat the message. His horse being faster than mine he undertook to find the general, and I returned to the battle-field to report to the general commanding. Lieutenant Sargent returned very soon after me, if not at the same time, but I do not know whether he had succeeded in finding the general or not.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. VON HERRMANN,
Major, Aide-de-Camp.

(No. 4.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to submit the following statement: Late in the afternoon of the 9th instant (the exact hour I cannot tell) I received verbal instructions from the major-general commanding to go and hurry up the detachments of the Thirteenth Corps, under command of Brigadier-General Cameron. I understood that General Cameron was on the Crump's Hill road, just beyond the red brick house. At this time Major von Herrmann and Lieutenant Simpson had both been sent to order up General Cameron. I met Major von Herrmann near the red brick house, who informed me that he could find nothing of General Cameron on the Crump's Hill road, but that it had been reported to him that he had already marched his command to the extreme left flank of our line, and was at that time engaged with the enemy. I at once reported this to the commanding general, who directed me to ride to the front and find out where General Cameron's command was. I did so, accompanying Brigadier-General Stone, who was riding to the front at the same time. Several officers and soldiers reported to us that they belonged to the Thirteenth Army Corps, and by direction of General Stone I reported that General Cameron's command was engaged with the enemy on our left. I have nothing further to report on that subject.

Very respectfully, I am, major, your obedient servant,

C. S. SARGENT,
First Lieut., Aide-de-camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

(No. 5.)

Headquarters Department of the Gulf,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Maj. George B. Drake,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf:

Major: I have the honor to report, in reply to your communication of this date, desiring a statement of any information I might have concerning the movements of General Cameron, that at about 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th instant, during the engagement at Pleasant Hill, I was ordered by General Stone to proceed on the Natchitoches road about 2 miles, where I would find General Cameron with about 2,000 men, and direct him to detach about one-half of his force, and placing them under the command of a competent officer to send them to support the battery on our left flank, near the brick house, to which point I was to conduct them. I immediately started out on the road pointed out, and after riding about a mile I came across a road branching off to the left, and near which a company of cavalry was stationed on picket. Not being able to learn which of these roads was the right one, I obtained three orderlies from the commanding officer of this company, and sent one of them down this left-hand road with directions to go about 2 miles, and if he could find General Cameron to say to him that an officer from General Banks' headquarters was looking for him with such orders, giving him the orders I had received from General Stone. I then continued on, as I could get no information from the officer of this picket concerning the whereabouts of General Cameron, and seeing tracks of infantry on the road, I passed our vedettes and rode on some 3 or 4 miles, but seeing no signs of any force, I concluded to return and see what success my orderly had met with on the other road, at the same time sending my two remaining orderlies to go about 2 miles farther on this road, so as to make sure of finding him if there. On my return to the picket-post above referred to I was informed by the commanding officer that my orderly had returned from the other road, reporting that he had gone on until he met the commanding officer of the picket stationed there, who informed him that there were none of our forces outside of his, and that he had seen nothing of General Cameron or his command in that direction. Having now been absent some time, and fearing a continuance of the same would not be justified, I gave up my search and returned to the field, it being nearly dark. I was unable to find General Stone and reported to General Banks, who told me it was all right, and that General Cameron had been in the engagement.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. SIMPSON,
Lieut. and Actg. Aide-de-camp to Major-General Banks.

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Camp of Detachment Thirteenth Army Corps,
Grand Ecore, La., April 16, 1864.

Major: In pursuance of orders, I herewith report the part taken by the Third Division in the campaign from Natchitoches, La., to Sabine Cross-Roads, and of the detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, consisting of the Third and Fourth Divisions, after the battle of Mansfield and the wounding of Brigadier-General Ransom up to their arrival at this place. The Third Division left Natchitoches on the

6th instant, and encamped at Mayon Bayou, 16 miles, at evening. On the 7th instant marched to Pleasant Hill, a distance of 19 miles. On the 8th, moved to Saint Patrick's Bayou, a distance of 10 miles, and went into camp a little after 12 o'clock. I had placed out my pickets, about 3 p. m., when I received orders through Major-General Franklin to move some 5½ miles and support the Fourth Division, who were then reported to be engaged with the enemy. I moved, leaving my wagon train, which had not yet arrived, and five companies of the Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry with five companies of the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, making a whole regiment which had been detailed in the morning to guard the trains of the Third and Fourth Divisions. The pickets fell in on the march, and I arrived with my command at the scene of the conflict about 4.15 p. m., with the following men: First Brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Flory commanding—Forty-sixth Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 13 officers and 252 men; Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (five companies), 5 officers and 183 men; total, 18 officers and 435 men. Second Brigade, Colonel Raynor commanding—Fifty-sixth Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 9 officers and 224 men; Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry (five companies), 6 officers and 182 men; Twenty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, 13 officers and 406 men; total, 28 officers and 812 men. Total in division, 46 officers and 1,247 men.

When I arrived near the ground I found the road so full of teams and stragglers on foot and on horseback as to make it impossible to move any farther, and I commenced forming a line of battle, throwing the First Brigade on the right of the road and the Second on the left. I had only commenced the movement when I received orders from Major-General Banks, commanding department, to do as I had commenced and advance on "double-quick" and occupy the edge of the woods in front. I pushed the command forward as rapidly as possible until I reached the edge of the woods, when I ordered the command to halt and open fire on the masses of the enemy moving down in front. The entire force of the enemy was checked and held for nearly an hour, when they commenced moving in masses on our left flank. I sent the Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, which I held in reserve, to check the movements of the enemy on our left flank. The enemy now moved in masses on our right flank. The Forty-sixth Indiana Veteran Volunteers, being on our extreme right, were, by order of Lieutenant-Colonel Flory, ordered to change front to meet the charge, but in a few minutes they were crushed by overwhelming numbers and obliged to give way. The left flank was at about the same time turned and gave way. A heavy body of the enemy, moving down the road on our center in two lines and supported by a line of cavalry, completed our discomfiture, and we were soon in confusion.

I received from time to time verbal orders from Major-General Banks, commanding department, from Major-General Franklin, commanding U. S. forces in Western Louisiana, who were with me in the front, and from Brigadier-General Stone, chief of Major-General Banks' staff. I endeavored to rally the men in vain, for having entirely expended their ammunition not enough could be collected together in any one place in the dense forest to offer any hope in a bayonet charge against the largely superior force of the enemy. The jam of the cavalry train, which caused the loss of the artillery

of the Fourth Division and the loss of nearly all of my ambulances, filled as they were with wounded, increased the confusion. We rallied about one-half mile behind the Nineteenth Army Corps, and General Ransom being wounded, I took command of both divisions and collected about 800 men. I had just supplied my men with ammunition when I was ordered to fall back to Pleasant Hill in charge of the train, where I arrived at 8 o'clock next morning.

The loss in my division was 314 killed, wounded, and missing. Among those reported killed is Lieutenant-Colonel Flory, commanding First Brigade.* Among the wounded are Colonel Connell, Twenty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, left arm amputated; and Captain Dimmitt, acting assistant inspector-general, of my staff, who had his left thigh broken. Both are in the hands of the enemy. One of my orderlies bearing the division flag was wounded in the shoulder by the discharge of a spherical case, and another had a horse shot under him. So far as I know, every officer did his whole duty, and I am every way satisfied with the conduct of the men. They did all that could be expected of them, crushed and overwhelmed as they were by vastly superior numbers. My staff—Captain Mohr, acting assistant adjutant-general; Captain Dimmitt, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. H. H. Hyatt, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Dougherty, First Infantry, assistant commissary of musters—bravely and fearlessly supported me, carrying orders, under a terrific fire, to every point indicated.

On the morning of the 9th, at 11 o'clock, I received verbal instructions from Major-General Franklin, commanding, to move the detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps on a circuitous route and to protect a large train which should proceed in advance of me to Crump's Hill and toward Grand Ecore. I started about 12 m., and at 2 p. m. I received orders from some person to me now unknown, purporting to come from General Stone or Major-General Banks, I have forgotten which, that I must watch and protect our left flank and carefully guard the train, and for that purpose halt until it had advanced out of the way of danger. At 5 o'clock I was about 4½ miles from Pleasant Hill, and could distinctly hear the musketry firing of the engagement of Saturday. I received no other orders, those sent me having miscarried. Had I received the orders sent I think I could have carried at least 2,000 armed men into the fight and added very much to the enemy's rout that day, and greatly gratified the feelings of the men of my command, suffering as they were from the mortification of their previous discomfiture. I arrived at Crump's Hill about 2.30 a. m. of the 10th, and rested for three hours, when I moved on to Mayon Bayou, 7 miles. On the 11th I left Mayon Bayou at 4 a. m., and arrived at this place at 10 a. m.

I am, truly, your obedient servant,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Nineteenth Army Corps.

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CAMP OF DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., April 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in pursuance of orders from Brigadier-General Emory, commanding U. S. forces in the

* Lieutenant-Colonel Flory was wounded, not killed.

action of Budd's Ferry or Monett's Crossing of Cane River, on the 23d instant, that I crossed the river by fording on the morning of the 23d in the rear of Brigadier-General Birge's forces, and followed and supported him during his movements on the enemy's left flank. The movement, as you are aware, was eminently successful, driving the enemy from his position and enabling us to seize the ferry. My command, acting only as a support, was not seriously engaged, but they evinced a zeal and willingness highly pleasing and satisfactory to me. It may not be amiss for me to state that Brigadier-General Birge and staff displayed a great amount of courage, of which I was personally cognizant.

I also desire to add my testimony to the gallant conduct of Colonel Fessenden and his command, the Third Brigade, First Division, of the Nineteenth Army Corps. This brigade fought splendidly, charging the enemy up the side of a steep hill and driving them from a most formidable position with, it is true, a very severe loss.

I am, truly, your obedient servant,

R. A. CAMERON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 10.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations May 1–22.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Maddox's House, May 2, 1864—10 p. m.

GENERAL: The troops of this corps, with the command of General Mower, are encamped in two lines about 2 miles from our intrenched camp, facing to the west, with one regiment on the north side of Bayou Rapides. We have skirmished all the afternoon without sustaining loss. The enemy gave away readily so long as we advanced. Our farthest advance was about 5 miles from Alexandria, at 4 p. m. Your dispatch received at that hour caused us to retire to this position. I do not think it would be prudent to advance to-morrow with the troops of the Thirteenth Corps alone. Your dispatch directs that General Mower shall retire to his former position. I shall therefore await your orders for to-morrow's movement. Although the enemy did not resist stubbornly to-day, he showed an extensive line of pickets, mostly cavalry. Some of my officers who were with the skirmishers saw infantry also. Just before sundown, as we were withdrawing, they opened three field guns, but retired them after half a dozen shots from our battery. I have not felt justified under my instructions in pushing forward so rapidly as I might otherwise have done. From the extent of the enemy's pickets I am satisfied he has a force of respectable dimensions not far out. An engagement would attend our determined advance. If allowed to give substantial battle I should be willing to go forward to-morrow with the same force I have had to-day. At the same time a

regiment or two of cavalry to examine the country on our left would be of the greatest service; indeed, some cavalry on that flank is indispensable to a safe advance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Gulf.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 7, 1864—11 a. m.

GENERAL: I am now at Twelve-Mile Bridge. The enemy heretofore in our front have divided, part crossing the bridge, the rest going south through the pine woods. I shall cross the bridge presently and move up the island. A lady living near here, whose husband is in the U. S. service, reports that Taylor, Steele, and Price are at McNutt's Hill. The rebels are driving all the stock before them as they retire. We have passed some corn. I have ordered Captain Haskell to bring up 10,000 field rations to-morrow. The same wagons can be loaded with forage for the return. No cavalry has reported to us. I understand from Lieutenant Sargent, now here, that 300 were ordered to report yesterday. I need them very much. Captain Haskell has instructions to ask for a cavalry escort for his subsistence train in the morning. I earnestly request a small force sent with him.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH CORPS,
New Texas Landing, La., May 22, 1864.

GENERAL: I respectfully submit the following report of this detachment of the Thirteenth Corps since May 1, on which day Major-General McClernand, in consequence of severe illness, transferred the command to me: The detachment, composed of the Third Division, Brigadier-General Cameron commanding; the Fourth Division, Col. W. J. Landram; the Second Brigade, First Division, Col. James Keigwin, was posted as follows: The Third and Fourth Divisions occupied the intrenched line opposite the sugar-house, the right resting on Bayou Rapides, and Keigwin's brigade the line of Woody Bayou, three-fourths of a mile advanced. On the 2d day of May, with Keigwin's brigade and Cameron's division, I moved out on the Shreveport road, under orders to advance 12 miles. The enemy confronted me, apparently in force, 2 miles beyond Winn's, and as my instructions forbade a general engagement, after some slight skirmishing, I withdrew to Winn's plantation, and bringing up the Fourth Division encamped there my whole command. May 5, in accordance with orders from department headquarters, directing that the force of the enemy which had been demonstrating in our front should be driven back to beyond Graham's plantation, I moved with Keigwin's brigade and Cameron's division and drove the enemy beyond the point designated, with a loss to them of 8 killed, 20

wounded, and 3 prisoners, and on our side of 1 killed and 19 wounded. Having fallen back to Winn's on the evening of the 5th, orders were received on the 6th of May directing a second advance, which was accordingly made in the afternoon of that day with the same troops. We reached Middle Bayou without material opposition from the enemy, and bivouacked there for the night. The next morning the advance was resumed, and we drove the enemy, fighting all the way, across Bayou Rapides, at Lamothe's Bridge, and to McNutt's Hill. At night I withdrew to Middle Bayou, and having sent back to Beattie's the brigade of the Fourth Division which had come up in the mean time, the remainder of the troops went into camp at the bayou, orders from the headquarters of the department directing that this line should be held with a view of covering our forage train. Major McNeil, acting assistant inspector-general on the staff of the rebel General Bee, was killed on this day by Cameron's pickets while reconnoitering our lines. The troops of the corps remained quietly in camp at Middle Bayou, at Beattie's, and Winn's, until the 13th of May, when orders were received to break camp and march for the Mississippi. The movement of the troops commenced at 3 p. m., the corps and division trains having been sent into Alexandria in the morning, and reported to the quartermaster in charge of the army train. We moved down to Winn's plantation, thence across to the Opelousas road, and then to the Red River, and camped for the night on the right flank and rear of the train, having marched 14 miles.

Early on the 14th of May the Fourth Division, under the command of Col. F. W. Moore, Eighty-third Ohio (Colonel Landram being too unwell to make the journey by land), moved to the front and reported to Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, and was subject to his orders during the day. The original order of march from department headquarters was here changed so far as to permit Smith's command to move in from the Opelousas road and take position in the front. This threw my corps in the rear. We marched at 10 a. m., Cameron's division on the right flank and Keigwin's brigade in the rear of the train. Our march during the day was slow and tedious, and continued until 2 o'clock at night, when orders were received to camp until the train moved on to the front. Keigwin's brigade camped at the Wilson plantation, and Cameron's and Moore's divisions about 2 miles in the advance. The enemy did not annoy us during the day, but carried on a brisk skirmish with the cavalry in our rear ; distance marched about 15 miles.

May 15.—Ordered to march at 7 a. m., but in consequence of the delay in building bridges in front we did not get well under way until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. After rapid marching until 1.30 at night, my troops were halted in the rear of the trains near Marksville, and slept on their arms until 5 a. m. of the 16th, when the march was again resumed. The enemy were supposed to be in position in front, and my orders for the day were to move up and post my command in echelon at the forks of the road, just beyond Marksville, to protect the train and the right flank and rear of the army. Our advance, the Nineteenth Corps, under Brigadier-General Emory, found the enemy in line at Mansura Post-Office. They opened on his lines a very heavy artillery fire, without, however, checking his forward movement, and upon the near approach of his advance they withdrew from the field. At the commencement of the firing I ro

ceived orders to send one division to the front. Cameron's division moved accordingly, and by your direction marched on the left of the road and opposite the head of the train during the day. Leaving Moore's division to protect the rear, I moved with Keigwin's brigade to the front and right of our line to the support of Brigadier-General Smith's command, but upon reaching the position designated the enemy had already withdrawn, and I resumed my usual position on the flank and rear of the train. We marched at intervals all day and night, halting at Bayou De Glaize two hours, on the morning of the 17th, for breakfast. Here orders were again received changing the order of march, placing my command in the center and Smith's in the rear. Moving at sunrise, we passed General Smith's troops in camp at Callahan's plantation. Arrived at Yellow Bayou at 2 p. m., crossed our troops with the train, and went into camp within 2 miles of Simsport by sundown. The enemy made a slight demonstration on our train during the day, and even charged in small force Colonel Dickey's brigade, of the Corps d'Afrique, but were promptly repulsed by these troops. I disposed my command along the right flank of the train, and, save an occasional shot, received no further annoyance. The cavalry, I believe, were engaged in a sharp contest with the foe, and did not get off without loss.

May 18.—The troops remained in camp on De Glaize Bayou, with the exception of Keigwin's brigade, which was sent across Yellow Bayou late in the afternoon to the support of Smith's command, a portion of which had been successfully engaging the enemy during the greater portion of the day. Keigwin, however, did not arrive in time to participate in the fighting, and was withdrawn on the following morning. Orders were received from department headquarters to hold my command in readiness to cross the Atchafalaya River on transports after the Nineteenth Corps, but on the morning of the 19th instant instructions were received delaying the crossing of the troops for that day, and directing me, in conjunction with the cavalry forces of General Arnold, to cross Yellow Bayou at the dike, 3 miles below Simsport, and attempt to gain the flank and rear of the enemy by marching to the Cut-Off road. Arriving at the dike, orders were received countermanding the movement unless the enemy should attack General Smith's troops. They did not do so, and in the afternoon the corps was withdrawn, and camped for the night in the rear of Simsport. Brig. Gen. Fitz Henry Warren, being my senior, assumed command of the corps on this day, but retained it only until the day following. In the mean time the troops and trains of the army were safely crossed on the bridge of boats. Just before the receipt of marching orders the command of the corps was again transferred to me. Moving at 7 o'clock, we marched all night, and arrived at Red River Landing by 6 in the morning of the 21st, when the troops were halted for breakfast. The march was continued without interruption from the enemy during the day. The trains were parked, and the troops camped on the banks of the Mississippi by 9 p. m. Resuming the march the next morning, 22d instant, we arrived by 1 p. m., and went into camp at New Texas Landing, the end of our tedious and fatiguing march. On the march from Alexandria to this place not a man was lost in the detachment, either killed, wounded, or by straggling.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT, *Chief of Staff.*

No. 11.

*Itinerary of the Artillery Brigade, Thirteenth Army Corps, for months of March, April, and May.**

March 5.—Headquarters Thirteenth Army Corps removed from New Orleans to Matagorda Island, Tex. Maj. A. Schwartz assumed command of the Artillery Brigade, having been appointed chief of artillery and ordnance of the corps.

March 24.—Battery E, Second Illinois Light Artillery, returned to Baton Rouge. The Second Ohio Battery, Battery A, First Missouri Light Artillery, First Indiana Battery, and Chicago Mercantile Battery were with General Banks' expedition on Red River.

April 18.—Headquarters Thirteenth Army Corps removed from Matagorda Island, Tex., to Alexandria, La., arriving there April 25.

April 23.—The First Wisconsin Battery removed from New Orleans up Red River to Alexandria. The Chicago Mercantile Battery was engaged on the 8th at Sabine Cross-Roads. Lost all their materials, 4 commissioned officers and 17 enlisted men; now in New Orleans doing duty as infantry. The First Indiana Battery was also engaged at Sabine Cross-Roads. Lost 4 guns, some horses, and 2 men. The Second Ohio, First Wisconsin, Battery A, First Missouri Light Artillery, and First Indiana Battery are still with the expedition on Red River.

May.—The First Wisconsin, Second Ohio, Battery A, First Missouri Light Artillery, and First Indiana Battery marched with the army under General Banks from Alexandria to Simsport and thence to Morganza, and had several skirmishes with the enemy. Battery E, Second Illinois Light Artillery, has been on a reconnaissance under Colonel Sheldon, and had a slight skirmish with the enemy near Baton Rouge.

No. 12.

Report of Lieut. Henry Roe, Chicago (Illinois) Mercantile Battery, of operations March 15–*April* 8.

CAMP CHICAGO MERCANTILE BATTERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 17, 1864.

SIR: Below please find history of the operations of my command since leaving Franklin, La., as per your orders of April 17, 1864:

March 15, moved from Franklin, La., joining the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps. March 16, moved from Franklin at 6 a. m., marching 18 miles. March 17, moved camp at 7 a. m., going into camp at Camp Pratt, marching 18 miles. March 18, moved from Camp Pratt at 6 a. m., marching 18 miles, going into camp on Vermillion Bayou. March 19, moved from Vermillion Bayou at 7 a. m., marching 18 miles, going into camp on Carrion Crow Bayou. March 20, moved from Carrion Crow Bayou at 6 a. m., marching 15 miles, going into camp near Washington. March 21, remained in camp. March 22, moved from Washington at 6 a. m., marching 18 miles, going into camp at Bayou Boeuf. March 23, moved from Bayou

* From monthly returns.

Boeuf at 5.30 a. m., marching 20 miles, going into camp on the same bayou. March 24, moved at 7 a. m., marching 18 miles, going into camp at Lecompte Station. March 25, moved from Lecompte Station at 7 a. m., marching 15 miles, going into camp 5 miles from Alexandria. March 26, moved camp at 7 a. m., going into camp 4 miles beyond Alexandria. March 27, remained in camp; battery paid off by Major Brigdon. March 28, moved from Alexandria at 6 a. m., marching about 20 miles, going into camp at Harrison's plantation. March 29, moved at 9 a. m., marching about 6 miles, going into camp near Cane River. March 30, remained in camp until 10 p. m., when we crossed the river. March 31, moved at 6 a. m., marching about 20 miles, going into camp near the ferry at Old Red River. April 1, moved at 8 a. m., marching about 15 miles, going into camp 5 miles from Natchitoches. April 2, moved at 6 a. m., going into camp at Natchitoches. April 3, 4, 5, remained in camp. April 6, moved from Natchitoches at 6 a. m., marching about 15 miles. April 7, moved at 6 a. m., marching 20 miles, going into camp at Pleasant Hill. April 8, moved from Pleasant Hill at 5 a. m., marching about 12 miles, when we were ordered to proceed at the double-quick to the field, a distance of 3 miles. The field was soon reached, and we went into position in a plowed field on the left of the road. We remained there but a few moments, when we were ordered to take position on the right of the road at the edge of the woods. Here we did some very sharp firing and succeeded in keeping the enemy in check for a short time, but being unsupported, we were eventually obliged to fall back. We then took position some distance back at the edge of the woods, which we held for some time, and were then ordered to limber up and get into the road, as the retreat had by that time become general. We succeeded in getting the pieces all off the field, but the road being blockaded by the wagons we were compelled to leave them. Our loss was 1 officer killed, 1 wounded, and 2 prisoners; 1 enlisted man killed, 2 wounded, and 21 prisoners. The battery fired in all about 250 rounds. April 9, we started from Pleasant Hill, reaching Grand Ecore on the 11th, where we have been in camp since.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY ROE,
Junior Second Lieutenant, Commanding Battery.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 13.

Report of Lieut. Charles M. Callahan, Battery A, First Missouri Light Artillery, of operations March 16–*April* 10.

CAMP BATTERY A, FIRST REGT. MISSOURI LIGHT ART.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 18, 1864.

Report of operations of the battery in connection with this army since it left Franklin, La.: The battery left Franklin, La., March 16, 1864, under command of Lieut. E. Cole, marched and camped with the army of Western Louisiana, in a northwestern direction, passing the towns of New Iberia, La., March 17, 1864, Vermillion-

ville, La., March 19, 1864, Opelousas and Washington, La., March 20, 1864, Holmesville, La., March 23, 1864, and Cheneyville, La., March 24, 1864, and arrived at Alexandria, La., March 26, 1864, marching in all a distance of about 190 miles. March 27, 1864, remained in camp near Alexandria, La. March 28, 1864, left camp and arrived at Cane River March 29, 1864; crossed Cane River on pontoon bridge March 30, 1864. March 31, 1864, passed the town of Cloutierville, La., and encamped that night, after fording Cane River, about 25 miles from Natchitoches, La. April 1, 1864, force marched to Natchitoches, La.; marched about 25 miles in 6 hours and 30 minutes; remained in camp at Natchitoches until April 6, 1864, during which time Lieut. C. M. Callahan returned to company and assumed command. April 6, 1864, left camp near Natchitoches, La., marched and camped and arrived at Pleasant Hill April 7, 1864, marching a distance of 35 miles. April 8, 1864, left Pleasant Hill and marched toward Sabine Cross-Roads; did not take part in any engagement that day; marched back that same night, after the defeat of our army, to Pleasant Hill, La. April 9, 1864, left Pleasant Hill, La., marched day and night, and arrived at Grand Ecore, La., April 10, 1864; remained in camp until April 14, 1864, when a section of battery took a position on the Natchitoches road, the rest of the battery remaining in camp up to the present date.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. CALLAHAN,

First Lieut., Comdg. Battery A, First Missouri Light Art.

Brig. Gen. R. ARNOLD,

Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 14.

*Itinerary of the First Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, April 18–May 22.**

The Second Brigade, under command of Brigadier-General Lawler, shipped from Matagorda Island to New Orleans April 18; arrived in that city on the 21st, left for Alexandria on the 24th, and arrived there the 26th. The brigade remained in the vicinity of Alexandria, skirmishing more or less every day with the enemy until May 13, when it marched with the army for the Mississippi.

May 22.—Arrived safely at Morganza, La., where it has since remained. The Thirty-fourth Iowa Volunteers was transferred to the Fourth Division, May 11, by order of General Lawler, commanding detachment of Thirteenth Corps, in the field.

April 25.—The Twenty-third Iowa and one wing of Twenty-second Iowa, belonging to First Brigade, shipped from Matagorda Island. Headquarters of the division and the remaining wing of the Twenty-second Iowa embarked for New Orleans April 29; arrived May 1.

On May 4, left New Orleans with Twenty-third Iowa and left wing of Twenty-second Iowa Volunteers for Alexandria; arrived at Fort De Russy and found the river blockaded by heavy batteries. Returned to the mouth of Red River, and remained until the army arrived at Simsport, when the troops joined it. The remainder of the First Brigade had not yet left Texas at last report.

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* From return for May.

No. 15.

Report of Maj. Bradford Hancock, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, of operations April 6–8, and itinerary of the brigade, March 5–May 22.

HDQRS. 29TH REGT. WISCONSIN VOL. INFY.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by the First Brigade, Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, in the campaign from Natchitoches to Sabine Cross-Roads, La., as follows: The brigade, composed of the Forty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and First Missouri Battery [A, First Missouri Artillery], commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Flory, Forty-sixth Indiana Infantry, commenced the march from Natchitoches in its proper place in column at 7.45 a. m., April 6, marching about 16 miles, and going into camp about 5 p. m. Commenced march on the 7th, marching about 20 miles, going into camp at Pleasant Hill about 1 p. m. Commenced march April 8 at 5.45 a. m., five companies, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, having been detailed to guard train, marching about 12 miles, going into camp about 1 p. m. In about one hour orders for the division to march immediately to the front were received and promptly obeyed, the artillery being left behind. Marched about 5 miles, and arrived in good order on the field of battle.

The First Brigade was immediately thrown into line on the right of the road, and charged forward at quick and double-quick time through thick underbrush, woods, and fallen timber, meeting the broken troops of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, and the pursuing enemy, driving them back about one-half mile, until reaching the edge of a large open field over which the enemy was advancing in heavy force. The brigade halted and commenced a heavy fire, driving the enemy entirely from the field, and forcing him to abandon some pieces of artillery. The enemy soon charged again into the field, attempting to gain possession of the artillery, but reserving the fire of the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin until the enemy was well advanced they opened a severe fire, driving him again in disorder from the field. Meanwhile the enemy fired upon us with artillery from the opposite side and moved several regiments of infantry around the right of the field, and around the right and almost to the rear of our line, and again charged our direct front with a force far outnumbering ours, but were repulsed with severe loss.

Information was sent to the commanding general that we were being flanked on our right by a heavy force. Mean time the second regiment had been driven back so that the enemy had passed some distance to the rear on our left. Lieutenant-Colonel Flory, in order to meet the flank movement on our right, changed the front of the Forty-sixth Indiana, moving it about 100 yards to the rear, so as to meet the enemy, who charged immediately in overwhelming numbers, forcing that regiment back, Lieutenant-Colonel Flory falling wounded into the hands of the enemy; but the Forty-sixth Indiana again formed line in a road nearly parallel with the first line of bat-

tle, and the enemy in heavy numbers pursuing again forced them to fall back. The Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, which had already suffered severely from the fire of the enemy advancing through the field, fell back in good order about 50 yards in order to clear its flanks from the enemy, changing front slightly toward the enemy on the right, who now advanced slowly but firing rapidly, they supposing, I think, that the Twenty-ninth formed part of a fresh line, as it was impossible to see but a short distance through the thicket. The enemy which had advanced across the open field now arrived close upon our left flank, delivering a heavy fire, driving back the skirmishers, which had been left along the fence to hinder their progress. The few troops now left, numbering not more than 100 men, fell back in tolerably order to get out of the terrible cross-fire they were receiving.

Many of our men had expended their ammunition, and it appeared as though we were completely surrounded and cut off. We, however, succeeded again in forming a line with about 40 men in the road near where the first line of battle was formed, fronted slightly to the right, the flanks resting in the brush on either side, intending (although many of our guns were empty and ammunition gone) to deceive the enemy with the idea that the long-expected re-enforcements had arrived. To this end the skeleton regiment gave three cheers for Vicksburg, immediately delivering its fire upon the enemy, whose line was advanced within a few yards. We were, however, immediately attacked on our left flank by a portion of the enemy, which we had mistaken through the smoke of some burning logs for our own troops. Many of our men fell, either killed or wounded, and we were immediately driven back. As from the general confusion now prevailing, the enemy having attacked the flank of the trains and the cavalry support having fled, it became impossible to make longer head against the enemy, our scattered forces fell back to the rear of the Nineteenth Army Corps, which was forming line, and we gathered our scattered men, with the aid of the five companies of the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, which had now arrived from guarding trains. Procuring ammunition and rations we commenced the retreat about 10 p. m., arriving at Pleasant Hill, 16 miles distant, early next morning.

The brigade numbered on going into battle as follows: Forty-sixth Indiana Infantry, 252 enlisted men, 13 officers; five companies Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, 183 enlisted men, 5 officers. The brigade lost in the battle as follows: Forty-sixth Indiana, 8 killed, 98 wounded and missing; five companies Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, 5 killed, 55 wounded and missing; total number engaged, 435 enlisted men and 18 officers; total loss, 13 killed, 153 wounded and missing. Among the killed is Lieut. J. McClung, Forty-sixth Indiana. Among the missing are Lieutenant-Colonel Flory, Forty-sixth Indiana, commanding brigade; Chaplain H. Robb, Capt. W. M. De Hart, Lieut. Jacob Hudlow, all of the Forty-sixth Indiana. Among the wounded who escaped are Capt. F. Swigart, Forty-sixth Indiana; Capt. G. H. Bryant, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin.

Soon after the breaking of our last line Captain Blake, of the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, was captured by the enemy, but succeeded almost immediately in making his escape.

I would add that the men were not disheartened, but are as ready as ever to meet the enemy, feeling that they were driven from the

field by force of overwhelming numbers. The conduct of officers and men during the engagement was most satisfactory, all conducting themselves bravely.

Most respectfully,

B. HANCOCK,
Major Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Capt. HENRY E. JONES,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 1st Brig., 3d Div., 13th Corps.

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*Itinerary of the First Brigade, Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, March 5–May 22.**

March 5.—Took cars at Algiers, La., for Brashear City; crossed Berwick Bay and went into camp to wait for train.

March 14.—Left camp at Berwick.

March 16.—Arrived at Franklin.

March 18.—Left Franklin.

March 26.—Arrived at Alexandria.

March 28.—Left Alexandria.

March 31.—Encamped at night on Cane River; distance marched about 230 miles.

April 6.—Left camp at Natchitoches, La., and moved on the Shreveport Road.

April 8.—Arrived and took part in the engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads in the evening, and fell back to Pleasant Hill, where we arrived on the morning of the 9th.

April 9.—Left Pleasant Hill.

April 11.—Arrived at Grand Ecore in the evening.

April 21.—We broke camp at Grand Ecore and marched toward Alexandria.

April 23.—Arrived at Cane River, and found the enemy strongly posted on the opposite side to prevent our crossing. After a short engagement they were driven back and we got possession of the ford.

April 24.—Left Cane River.

April 26.—Arrived at Alexandria.

April 30.—Still in camp at Alexandria, La.; whole distance marched about 250 miles.

May 1.—Still at Alexandria, La.; part of the command engaged in constructing the famous dam.

May 2.—Marched to the front 2 or 3 miles; skirmished with the enemy; bivouacked for the night and next day commenced erecting earth-works.

May 6.—Moved in the direction of the enemy; skirmished with him and drove him some 6 miles; there halted for the night; next day skirmished with him and drove him 5 miles farther; same evening fell back toward our intrenchments; halted some 6 miles from outer works and remained there on outpost duty until the 13th, skirmishing daily with the enemy.

May 13.—Took up line of march in the direction of the Mississippi River, arriving at Morganza Bend, La., a point some 10 miles below the mouth of Red River, after a series of delays in skirmishing, building bridges, &c., on the 22d instant, at which point we are now lying.

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* From returns for March, April, and May.

No. 16.

Report of Col. William H. Raynor, Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations April 6–8.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 13TH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to respectfully report the part taken by this brigade on the march from Natchitoches to and during the action near Mansfield, on the 8th instant: The brigade (composed as follows, Twenty-eighth Iowa, Col. John Connell commanding, aggregate, 493; Twenty-fourth Iowa, Maj. Ed. Wright commanding, aggregate, 388; Fifty-sixth Ohio, Capt. M. Manring commanding, aggregate, 224; total, 1,105) left Natchitoches on the morning of the 6th instant, and after a march of 35 miles arrived at Pleasant Hill, La., about 1.30 p. m. on the 7th. Soon after having been assigned a camp-ground the brigade was ordered forward to support a portion of the cavalry command, which was heavily skirmishing with the enemy about 2 miles in our front. We were led forward by General Cameron (commanding division) in person. After marching about 1 mile we were informed that the enemy had fallen back, and the men were allowed to return to camp. On the morning of the 8th instant the march was resumed. Soon after starting upon the road, the occasional sound of cannon and the continued dropping fire of musketry told us that the advance were sharply skirmishing. This brigade was soon detached from the division and ordered to the front. The enemy, though stubbornly, fell back before our cavalry and a portion of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Corps d'Armée, and we had not reached the extreme front when we arrived at the first branch of Bayou Saint Patrick, where the brigade was ordered to encamp in line of battle. This was about 11 a. m. Mean time, the large train belonging to General Lee's cavalry passed to our front, and our own arrived with the remainder of the division. About 3 p. m. the firing at the front became brisk, and we were soon after ordered forward, five companies of the Twenty-fourth Iowa being left with our wagon train. The division hurried forward, marching 6 miles, mostly at the double-quick. Upon nearing the Moss plantation the brigade was directed to form in the thick woods on the left side of the Mansfield road, in the following order: The right of the Fifty-sixth Ohio resting on the road, and the Twenty-eighth Iowa on their left, while the Twenty-fourth Iowa formed a second line in the rear of the two other regiments. In this order we moved steadily forward until the open fields of the plantation were reached. Here we found two guns of the First Indiana Battery and a few men of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, on the right of the road, hotly engaged with a heavy force of the enemy, who occupied a rising piece of ground in the center of the field, and another heavy mass with artillery posted on the extreme farther side. By direction of General Cameron the line pressed on into the open field, taking advantage of a slight elevation, and at once opened fire upon the enemy, whose force more than quadrupled our own. I soon after moved the Twenty-fourth Iowa from their position in the rear to the front, on the left of the Twenty-eighth Iowa. Under a heavy fire the men lay for over an hour, not daring to advance against an enemy who numbered thousands to our hundreds, and until their

ammunition was almost entirely expended, while the enemy, plainly in sight, was adding to his force and extending his line, which from the first greatly outflanked us. A heavy column, composed both of cavalry and infantry, were seen to detach themselves from the enemy's right and advance far on our left, where they formed in line perpendicular to our front and charged forward on our left. A force of cavalry which had been sent to our left to protect it fired one volley and fled, leaving our men exposed to a most telling enfilading fire, and from which fire nearly all our loss occurred. Mean time, the First Brigade of the division had been similarly outflanked on the right and driven from the field, which left us as badly exposed on the right. At the same time the heavy masses which had been gathering in our front came forward in an irresistible column. The division had, with little or no support, and numbering less than 1,200, kept in check an army of 10,000 or 12,000 for at least an hour and a half.

Our men, attacked on either flank, without support from any quarter and without ammunition, fell back at first in some order, but becoming broken, run down, and mixed with our own cavalry, soon became much disorganized.

After collecting the greater portion of the brigade in rear of the line formed by the Nineteenth Corps d'Armée, I received orders to retire to Pleasant Hill, distant about 18 miles, from which we had marched in the morning. This distance the exhausted men accomplished by daylight on the morning of the 9th instant.

The conduct of both officers and men was all that could be desired. Where all performed their duty special mention is not essential. Col. John Connell, of the Twenty-eighth Iowa, is among the missing, and is supposed to have been mortally wounded. Brave even to a fault, he remained on the field till too late, and was seen to fall before the last heavy volley poured upon the devoted division. His loss will be severely felt, not only by his regiment, where it is irreparable, but by his brother officers and comrades in arms, to whom his many noble and generous qualities had endeared him. Lieut. Thomas Hughes, acting brigade quartermaster, was upon the field rendering every assistance in his power; he is also among the missing, and is supposed to be a prisoner, we hope unhurt. Dr. Witherwax and Assistant Surgeon Lyons, of the Twenty-fourth Iowa, with Asst. Surg. P. M. McFarland, remained upon the field caring for our wounded, and are now in the hands of the enemy.

The brigade entered the action as follows: Twenty-eighth Iowa, 406 men and 13 officers; five companies of Twenty-fourth Iowa, 182 men and 6 officers; Fifty-sixth Ohio, 224 men and 9 officers; total, 812 men and 28 officers.

During the action the loss was as follows: Known to be killed, 11; wounded, 69; missing, 65; total, 145. Many of the missing are either killed or wounded. Appended herewith, and made a part of this report, is the report of the several regimental commanders, with a detailed list of their casualties.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. RAYNOR,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. Oscar Mohr,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Div., 13th Army Corps.

No. 17.

Report of Maj. Edward Wright, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH IOWA INFANTRY VOLS.,
Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the expedition from Natchitoches, La., to Sabine Cross-Roads:

The regiment, numbering 388, rank and file, marched with the brigade from Natchitoches on the 6th instant, arriving at Pleasant Hill on the evening of the 7th, without anything particular having occurred. On the morning of the 8th, five companies, viz, A, D, I, C, and H, were detailed as train guard and marched in rear of the Third Division train. The other four companies under my command marched to a point 7 miles distant from Sabine Cross-Roads, and went into camp with the brigade on a branch of Saint Patrick's Bayou. About 2 p. m. the command was ordered to the front, where the Fourth Division was engaged with the enemy. We arrived on the battle-field about 4 p. m., and were joined by Company F, provost guard at division headquarters. The command then numbered 159, rank and file. I was ordered to move in rear of the Twenty-eighth Iowa and Fifty-sixth Ohio, on the left of the road as reserve, and move forward, preserving a distance of 200 yards in the rear. The command remained in this position for about half an hour, when I was ordered to move forward and engage the enemy at once, which I did by obliquing to the left and coming in on the left of the Twenty-eighth Iowa. We held this position for near one hour, when the balance of the brigade having exhausted their ammunition, we were compelled to retire before a much superior force both on our left flank and in our front. Then, in obedience to orders, we fell back with the remainder of the brigade to Pleasant Hill, and went into camp on the morning of the 9th instant at 7 o'clock. Our loss was 1 surgeon and 29 enlisted men, a part of whom were wounded.

My command on the morning of the 9th numbered 362 enlisted men, 296 of whom are armed and equipped, 23 sick, 13 on extra duty, 30 without arms. This does not include Company F, which is still on duty at division headquarters.

I am, very respectfully,

ED. WRIGHT,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. C. B. BRADSHAW,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 18.

Report of Capt. Thomas Dillon, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-EIGHTH IOWA INFANTRY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with circular issued from headquarters U. S. Forces Western Louisiana, bearing date April 11, 1864, I here-

with send you an official report of the part taken by the Twenty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the expedition from Natchitoches to Sabine Cross-Roads.

The regiment left Natchitoches on the morning of the 6th of April as a part of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, and after a rapid march of 35 miles reached Pleasant Hill on the following day at 2 p. m. After a few minutes' pause the regiment was ordered out to support General Lee's cavalry, then engaging the enemy. It went out promptly, near 500 strong, not leaving camp guards.

After advancing 1 mile and waiting one hour we were ordered to return to camp. At 5.30 a. m. the following morning we moved with the division forward to support General Lee's cavalry and one brigade of the Fourth Division, then driving the enemy. On reaching ——— Creek, a distance of 10 miles, we were ordered to halt in line of battle, our regiment resting on the right of the division. At 2.30 p. m. we were ordered forward with the division to join Lee's cavalry and the Fourth Division, then engaging the enemy. At 3.30 p. m. reached the field of action and formed on the extreme left of the division, supported by the Twenty-fourth Iowa, and were the first to open fire on the enemy and were soon exposed to the fire of the enemy's battery, which poured shrapnel and shell upon us.

It soon became evident that the enemy were flanking us on the left, and the Twenty-fourth Iowa was sent to protect it. This not being sufficient, a small force of cavalry was sent also. Here the regiment advanced 100 yards into the open field, and it soon became evident that this position was untenable and the regiment fell back again. We held our position for two hours, received the constant fire of the enemy's infantry, and being exposed to his artillery, which played with telling effect upon our ranks, our ammunition being exhausted and the enemy already having gained our rear, and having no support whatever, we were compelled to retreat, which we did in the best possible manner with the rest of the division.

We went into the engagement 500 strong and in the best of order. I cannot personate in praises, for all most nobly did their duty. Not one officer flinched, not a man gave back. Col. John Connell had his horse shot under him early in the action, but remained on the field cheering and urging his men to the last, and it was supposed fell mortally wounded* while retreating from the field. A truer patriot and braver man fell not on that bloody field. Loved most by those who knew him best, his loss to the regiment is irreparable. He possessed not only the respect but the affection of his men. Adjt. J. G. Strong, while heroically and fearlessly doing his duty, was knocked from his horse by a minie-ball, inflicting a severe wound in the right shoulder, and was taken from the field. Having his wound dressed, returned to the field, and continued rallying the men in the thickest of the fire. First Lieut. H. H. Weaver was wounded in the right cheek while leading his company and compelled to leave the field. Second Lieut. O. F. Dorrance, while cheering his men in action, was severely wounded in the right hip and had to be borne from the field.

I regret that space will not permit me to speak of all the officers standing up like men and facing the rain of death, and of the pri-

* He resigned March 17, 1865.

vates and non-commissioned officers especially that fell in the conflict, yielding up their lives upon their country's altar. Better soldiers live not in any army nor rest on any battle-field.

Appended I send you a list of the casualties of the regiment.*

THOMAS DILLON,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Maj. EDWARD WRIGHT,
Comdg. Second Brig., Third Div., 13th Army Corps.

No. 19.

Report of Capt. Maschil Manring, Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. FIFTY-SIXTH OHIO VET. INFY. VOLS.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 14, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report of the part borne by this regiment in the action of the 8th instant: My command, numbering 224, rank and file, effective men, marched from Natchitoches with the brigade on the 6th instant, arriving at Pleasant Hill on the evening of the 7th.

On the morning of the 8th, marched 12 miles to a point 7 miles distant from Sabine Cross-Roads, and encamped. About 3 p. m. the regiment, with the brigade, was ordered to the front, where the Fourth Division was already engaged with the enemy. We arrived on the battle-ground about 4 o'clock, and immediately took position in line on the right of the brigade and immediately on the left of the Mansfield road, and then moved forward to the edge of the timber, when the enemy opened a terrific fire from their batteries and infantry. But, notwithstanding the galling fire they were receiving, the regiment steadily advanced to a point in the open field, about 150 yards distant from the wood, which position we held about two hours, when the cry arose, "More ammunition!" I immediately sent an officer to the rear for supplies, but before they could reach us we were forced to retire before a superior force of the enemy, who were pressing us closely on either flank and on our center. The regiment, however, did not give way until we saw that the whole line on the left had been flanked and forced back, leaving us alone on the open field. In obedience to orders, fell back to Pleasant Hill the same night. Our loss was 40 killed, wounded, and missing. My command now numbers 251 present, 122 of which are armed and equipped; the remainder are sick or wounded, on extra or daily duty, and unarmed.

Attached find a list of killed, wounded, and missing.*

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

M. MANRING,
Captain, Commanding Fifty-sixth Ohio Vet. Vols.

Lieut. C. B. BRADSHAW,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Embodied in table, p. 259.

No. 20.

Report of Col. William J. Landram, Nineteenth Kentucky Infantry, commanding Fourth Division, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIV., THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: On the 6th instant this division marched from Natchitoches, La., in rear of the cavalry of Brigadier-General Lee, a distance of 16 miles, in the direction of Pleasant Hill, and encamped in a dense wood near a bayou. On the 7th instant the command marched 19 miles, and encamped at Pleasant Hill. At 11 p. m. of the 7th, I received orders, of which the following are copies:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES WESTERN LOUISIANA,
April 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. E. G. RANSOM,
Commanding Detachment Thirteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that a brigade of infantry be sent to General Lee, to be with him by daylight to-morrow morning. You may use your discretion as to sending a brigade or division. The spirit of the order will doubtless be better carried out by sending a division. Send, therefore, a brigade or division to report to General Lee at or before 5 a. m. on to-morrow (Friday), 8th instant.*

Respectfully,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pleasant Hill, La., April 7, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Col. W. J. LANDRAM,
Commanding Fourth Division:

COLONEL: In obedience to the inclosed order you will move at 3 a. m. to-morrow, with the First Brigade of your division, and report to General Lee, 8 miles in front, at daylight or as soon thereafter as possible.*

By order of Brig. Gen. T. E. G. Ransom;

C. E. DICKEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

In obedience to these orders I moved with the First Brigade of my division at the time specified, and reported to Brigadier-General Lee very soon after daylight. By order of General Lee I followed his advance beyond the creek a short distance, and was ordered to take the front and drive the enemy, with which the cavalry was then skirmishing. The Sixteenth Indiana dismounted, and probably some other regiment of General Lee's command, and assisted in skirmishing for several miles. General Lee then directed that I relieve all of his command with my infantry and drive the enemy as rapidly as possible, at the same time ordering his cavalry to the right and left of the road to protect my flanks, which was done. The timber on each side of the road was heavy and dense, which rendered it very difficult to move in line, and the marching was tedious and tiresome to the men, the enemy contesting every foot of the ground as we advanced. All the houses near the road were abandoned, and we saw frequent evidences of large camps which had been recently deserted. The enemy were thus driven 9 miles or more beyond the

* See copies as furnished by General Ransom, pp. 264, 265.

camp of General Lee, making an obstinate resistance the whole time. The credit of this advance is due to the Twenty-third Wisconsin, Nineteenth Kentucky, Seventy-seventh Illinois, and Sixty-seventh Indiana Regiments Volunteer Infantry. Lieut. Col. L. R. Webb, of the Seventy-seventh Illinois, an accomplished gentleman and a gallant officer, was killed while commanding his regiment in the advance. The number of casualties was not large, only a few wounded.

At a point said to be 4 miles from Mansfield, our advance came in sight of a wide opening in the timber in front of a hill of considerable height, on the right, left, and top of which there was considerable timber, but not so thickly set as on the road over which we had advanced. I had made frequent requests, before coming to this point, to have the brigade relieved or allowed to rest, inasmuch as the men were excessively fatigued by the loss of sleep and the difficulty experienced in advancing through the underbrush, which seemed to extend for miles to the right and left of the road, and was informed by General Lee that he had sent for the Second Brigade of my division to relieve the First. Believing that the position in my immediate front was too strong to be abandoned by the enemy without a stubborn resistance, I expressed the opinion to General Lee that it would be dangerous to send the Nineteenth Kentucky (which was then deployed as skirmishers) through the opening to the top of the hill without a heavy support. By his direction, however, I ordered the regiment, with the remainder of the brigade in support, to advance, and covered their movement by a fire from two guns of a battery which had been ordered to report to me during the day. The enemy soon disappeared, and I formed line with the brigade on the side and top of the hill. In the mean time Major-General Banks and Brigadier-General Ransom arrived, and upon consultation, I believe, it was decided to halt at that point. About one and a half or two hours must have elapsed before my other brigade arrived, during which time the enemy made scarcely any show in front. On our right, however, there were frequent indications of a large force of the enemy moving by the left flank endeavoring to get a position upon our right, parallel with the road. This induced me to commence changing front so as to face them if they came down the road from Mansfield, or advanced in line from a road on our right parallel with the road upon which we had moved, and as fast as they extended their line I extended mine so as to effectually cover my front and right flank. At 3.30 p. m. the enemy placed his line (said by prisoners to be 8,000 infantry, with a reserve of 12,000 cavalry and infantry) in motion.

My force consisted of the following troops: First Brigade, Col. Frank Emerson, Sixty-seventh Indiana, commanding: Nineteenth Regiment Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. John Cowan commanding; Twenty-third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Maj. J. E. Greene commanding; Seventy-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Maj. J. A. Burdett commanding; Sixty-seventh Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Maj. F. A. Sears commanding. Second Brigade, Col. J. W. Vance, Ninety-sixth Ohio, commanding: Ninety-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. H. Brown commanding; Eighty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. W. H. Baldwin commanding; Forty-eighth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Lieut. Col. J. W. Lindsey

commanding; One hundred and thirtieth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Maj. John B. Reid commanding. The entire force numbering 2,413 men.

It would have been impossible at that time to have retired from the position we occupied, and by direction of Brigadier-General Ransom, who had arrived upon the field and assisted in person in arranging the line, I assumed the offensive as soon as I saw their whole line advancing, so as to meet them upon better ground and with a better effect. A general engagement ensued, lasting one hour and a half, which was by far the most desperate I ever witnessed. Some parts of the line were broken after a short but terrific engagement, but in other parts it remained firm and unbroken until the enemy had flanked my whole force and began an attack in the rear. Seeing that the capture of the entire force was inevitable unless I withdrew, I ordered the remainder of the shattered regiments to fall back, which they attempted, but were unable to accomplish with entire success.

The list of the killed and wounded of my command cannot be ascertained, inasmuch as the enemy retained possession of the field, but that we suffered severely there can be no doubt. Many brave men fell, but they fell with their faces to the foe. Honored be their memory. That the enemy suffered immensely is known by actual observation and by statements of prisoners captured the day following, who acknowledged they had purchased a victory at a bloody price. Col. J. W. Vance, commanding Second Brigade, fell while gallantly cheering his men, but whether wounded or killed is unknown. Col. Frank Emerson, commanding First Brigade, also fell wounded while nobly performing his duty, and is a prisoner in the hands of the enemy. Major Reid, of the One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, was killed while rallying his men.* Lieutenant-Colonel Lindsey, of the Forty-eighth Ohio, is reported wounded, and Major Bering, of the same regiment, killed.* Lieutenant-Colonel Cowan, Nineteenth Kentucky, was conspicuous for the manner in which he managed his regiment, directing the fire of his men and preserving, up to the order of retreat, an unbroken line, driving the rebels from his front in three distinct charges, and ordering the fire in which the rebel General Mouton was killed while leading a charge, carrying a regimental flag. When ordered to withdraw he remarked that he had driven the rebels from his front, and if the remainder of the line stood firm he could not be taken. In endeavoring to obey the order he is reported to have been wounded and captured. Major Mann, of the same regiment, is reported killed or wounded.

To Major Greene and the officers and men of the Twenty-third Wisconsin, for the manly and noble manner in which they supported the battery and held the left of the line until further resistance was impossible, I desire to express my admiration and gratitude. Major Sears and the gallant Sixty-seventh Indiana and Major Burdett and the brave men of the Seventy-seventh Illinois deserve the highest praise for their conduct. The officers and men of the One hundred and thirtieth Illinois and Forty-eighth Ohio deserve equal praise. Though the survivors mourn the loss of their gallant field officers, they have the consolation of knowing that they all did their duty. Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, of the Ninety-sixth Ohio, and the men

*Major Reid was mustered out August 15, 1865, and Major Bering June 16, 1865.

of his regiment, as well as Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin and the officers and men of the Eighty-third Ohio, are entitled to my warmest thanks for their gallantry in holding the right of the line until overpowered by vastly superior numbers. The conduct of the Nineteenth Kentucky was worthy of all praise, and I thank them for their gallantry upon this as upon all other occasions. The Chicago Mercantile Battery, Lieutenant Cone commanding, and the First Indiana Battery, Captain Klauss commanding, came upon the field about 4 p. m., and delivered a very destructive fire upon the advancing lines of the enemy. The officers and men of these batteries deserve great praise for their coolness and courage. Many of their horses were killed, but they succeeded in getting their pieces into the road when ordered to fall back, and would have saved their guns but for the immense wagon train of the cavalry which blocked up the road in their front and rear. Capt. P. H. White and Lieutenant Cone, of the Mercantile Battery, were captured. Lieutenant Throop and Lieutenant Barr, of the same battery, were wounded and captured. Lieutenant Rogers, Second New York Veteran Cavalry, with his company, was with me during the day and behaved well. Two men of his command were wounded. Brigadier-General Ransom, commanding detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, rode the entire length of our line, cheering the troops and assisting in rallying the men after the lines had been broken. This gallant and able officer was severely wounded while assisting me in trying to reform the line, and after he fell from his horse continued to give directions as to the dispositions he desired me to make.

It is proper to say that Captain Nims' battery displayed during the whole fight an example of coolness and true courage unsurpassed in the annals of history. They are entitled to the highest commendations, and although they lost their guns it is due to them to say that they could not have prevented it, and that the damage they inflicted upon the enemy was such as to entitle them to the thanks of the whole army.

Major-General Banks, Major-General Franklin, and Brigadier-General Stone were active in assisting to rally the men amidst the hottest of the fire. Part of the men were rallied and a second line formed near the line of Brigadier-General Cameron, who had arrived with the Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, but it was unable to resist the continued assaults of the enemy, who pressed upon us with overwhelming numbers. The Nineteenth Army Corps, having arrived about sunset, checked the further advance of the enemy, and after dark I caused fires to be built a short distance in the rear of the line on both sides of the road and gathered together the shattered remains of my division, which, together with what came in at Pleasant Hill next day, amounted to 1,683 men, who were immediately reorganized and placed on duty.

I thank Lieut. Henry P. Ayres, Seventy-seventh Illinois, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. John Landram, Nineteenth Kentucky, aide-de-camp; Capt. J. W. Wilkin, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois; Capt. D. C. Holdridge, Twenty-third Wisconsin, inspector-general, and Capt. R. H. Brock, Seventy-seventh Illinois, for their gallantry and efficiency. They were all prompt and faithful in the discharge of duty. It is impossible to tell who were killed or who were wounded and were taken prisoners, but my total loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners is 73 officers and 1,063 enlisted men, making

an aggregate of 1,136. My thanks are due to Rev. James Matthews, chaplain of the Nineteenth Kentucky, who gave me valuable information at a critical moment and was active in rallying the men. Lieut. George H. McKinney, acting assistant quartermaster, is entitled to praise for care and attention to the division train, none of which was captured. Captain Rouse, Seventy-seventh Illinois, acting assistant adjutant-general; Captain Vilas, Twenty-third Wisconsin, aide-de-camp; Captain Hogg, Nineteenth Kentucky, inspector First Brigade; Captain Lynch, Forty-eighth Ohio, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant Campbell, Ninty-seventh Illinois, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Rike, Forty-eighth Ohio, inspector Second Brigade, were faithful in the discharge of their duties, and deserve praise for their conduct.

In this report of the part taken by my division in the battle of Mansfield I have thought proper to be thus particular in specifying the conduct of regiments and officers, inasmuch as the commanders of brigades and most of the field officers of regiments were among the killed or wounded and none are left to make reports.

Respectfully,

W. J. LANDRAM,
Colonel Nineteenth Kentucky, Commanding Division.

Capt. OSCAR MOHR,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Detach. Thirteenth Army Corps.

No. 21.

*Itinerary of the Fourth Division, April 1–May 25.**

April 1.—This division encamped at Natchitoches.

April 6 *and* 7.—Marched from Natchitoches to Pleasant Hill.

April 8.—At 3 a. m. the First Brigade marched out on the Shreveport road toward Mansfield, La., to the support of General Lee's cavalry division, 7 or 8 miles distant. Commenced skirmishing with the enemy at Bayou De Paul and followed him up as he fell back to Sabine Cross-Roads, when the brigade was halted about 2 p. m. and was afterwards re-enforced by the arrival of the Second Brigade. About 4 p. m. the enemy made an attack and a severe engagement followed, and being pressed by superior numbers the division was compelled to fall back. A retreat being ordered, the division arrived at Grand Ecore on the 11th.

April 21.—Moved from Grand Ecore.

April 23.—Skirmished with the enemy at Cane River Crossing.

April 25.—Arrived at Alexandria.

May 13.—Joined in the retreat of the army from Alexandria.

May 20.—Crossed the Atchafalaya and marched to the mouth of Red River.

May 22.—Marched from thence to Morganza.

May 25.—Embarked at Morganza and proceeded to Baton Rouge, La.

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*From returns for April and May.

ADDENDA.

Special field return of the effective strength of the troops of the First Brigade, Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, in the field on the morning of April 12, 1864.

Troops.	Number of companies.	Present for duty.		
		Officers.	Men.	Total.
19th Kentucky Volunteers	10	4	138	142
67th Indiana Volunteers	10	9	204	213
23d Wisconsin Volunteers	10	12	278	290
77th Illinois Volunteers	4	6	195	201
Recruits for 11th Wisconsin[a]	.....	.....	67	67
Total	34	31	882	913

[a] Temporarily assigned to duty in 23d Wisconsin Volunteers.

GRAND ECORE, LA.

JOHN D. ROUSE,
Captain and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

Special field return of the effective strength of the troops of the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, in the field on April 12, 1864.

Troops.	Number of companies.	Present for duty.		
		Officers.	Men.	Total.
Brigade commander and staff	.....	5	.....	5
96th Ohio Volunteers	10	13	186	199
48th Ohio Volunteers	10	4	94	98
130th Illinois Volunteers	10	3	65	68
83d Ohio Volunteers	10	11	259	270
Total	40	36	604	640

GRAND ECORE, LA.

JAS. R. LYNCH,
Captain and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

No. 22.

Report of Maj. John A. Burdett, Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry, First Brigade, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

Campaign of the Seventy-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers, from Natchitoches, La., to Sabine Cross-Roads: We marched on the morning of the 6th of April, 1864, at 7 o'clock, and after marching 15 miles through a timber country, encamped for the night. On the morning of the 7th, we started at 5.30 o'clock, and after marching 20 miles through a hilly and timbered country, arrived at Pleasant Hill, where we encamped for the night. On the morning of the 8th, we started at 3 o'clock, and after marching about 13 miles, my regiment was thrown out as skirmishers and skirmished for 8 miles, and over

three hours. Col. L. R. Webb, of this regiment, was killed instantly. The Nineteenth Kentucky Volunteers relieved us, and we supported them. After they had been skirmishing a short time they found the main body of the enemy. We were then ordered into position, which took some time. Soon after 4 p. m. we were ordered forward in line of battle, and engaged the enemy before we had gone 125 yards. The engagement was short but very severe, and resulted in the repulse of our division and the death or capture of 176 officers and enlisted men of my regiment, it being over one-half of the number engaged. We fell back to Pleasant Hill that night and early next morning. On the morning of the 9th, at 11 o'clock, we marched toward Natchitoches as guard for the supply trains. We marched 25 miles, marching by a longer route than the one we went out on. On the morning of the 10th we marched in.

JOHN A. BURDETT,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

No. 23.

Report of Maj. Francis A. Sears, Sixty-seventh Indiana Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. SIXTY-SEVENTH REGT. INDIANA VOL. INFTY.,
In the Field, April 9, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to order No. —, I would respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by the Sixty-seventh Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry in the campaign from Natchitoches, La., to the Sabine Cross-Roads: The regiment was under my command, and left Natchitoches on the 6th day of April, 1864. There was nothing of interest to report more than the usual routine of marching until the morning of the 8th instant. We arrived at Pleasant Hill, a distance of 35 miles, on the afternoon of the 7th instant. On the morning of the 8th instant, at 3 o'clock, the regiment began marching, there being but one regiment in advance—the Twenty-third Wisconsin. We were followed by the Nineteenth Kentucky and Seventy-seventh Illinois Regiments. About 6.30 a. m., after having marched 9 miles, we came up with the advance of General Lee's cavalry forces, who were skirmishing with the enemy in the woods just beyond a saw-mill and on the road leading to Mansfield. Here the Sixty-seventh Indiana was formed in line of battle on the left of the road, and advanced in connection with the Twenty-third Wisconsin, which was formed on the right of the road. We met with a pretty stubborn resistance at first, but soon routed and drove the enemy handsomely for near 4 miles, when we were relieved by the Seventy-seventh Illinois, and then marched about 2 miles and again formed in line of battle on the right of the same road, which position we occupied, and advanced, driving the enemy before us for 3 miles, until we reached Sabine Cross-Roads. At this place the Second Brigade of the Fourth Division came up and formed on our right. Here the regiment was permitted to rest from 2 o'clock until 3.15 p. m., when it was advanced by General Lee into the edge of the woods. Captain Nims' battery had taken position in the road immediately on our left, and the Seventy-seventh Illinois on our right. We remained in the woods but a

short time before the enemy advanced and attacked us with an overwhelming force, driving the regiment to a fence at the edge of the woods. Here another stand was made, and this position held under a heavy fire until we were flanked on the right. There being no support, I ordered the regiment to fall back and formed it in the road, where there was some protection, and held this position until the battery on our left had either left or was captured. The lines right and left being broken, the regiment was flanked again and driven to the woods, about 400 yards in the rear of the first position, where the action begun. Here a portion of the regiment was rallied, and fired until the ammunition was exhausted. The officers and men of the regiment deserve praise for their conduct during the engagement. I believe that they all did their duty, and acted as well as men could who had been marching from 3 a. m. until 2 p. m., and in line of battle and skirmishing for near 9 miles. Their performance of duty during the whole day, and especially during the engagement of the afternoon, could not have been better. The following is the list of casualties: Killed, 4; wounded, 20; missing, 21.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

FRANCIS A. SEARS,
Major, Comdg. Sixty-seventh Regt. Indiana Infty. Vols.

Lieut. H. P. AYRES,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth Division.

No. 24.

Report of Capt. William T. Cummins, Nineteenth Kentucky Infantry, of operations April 6–11.

HDQRS. NINETEENTH KENTUCKY VOL. INFANTRY,
April 12, 1864.

Sketch of the march from Natchitoches, La., to Sabine Cross-Roads, and from there back to Grand Ecore, La.: April 6, Wednesday morning, the regiment moved off at 7 a. m.; direction mostly west, through a heavy pine forest; the roads not very good, as the country is broken; crossed a small bayou and bivouacked for the night, about 4 p. m., in the forest, making about 16 miles; roads very dusty. April 7, the regiment moved off at 5.30 a. m., still in the forest; roads not very good; rather broken. After marching 9 miles the regiment crossed a small bayou, and that evening bivouacked at Pleasant Hill, La., making 19 miles that day. Friday, April 8, took up march at 3 a. m.; marched 9 miles and came on the enemy, and had heavy skirmishing up till 2.30 p. m., during which time the enemy was driven 8 miles, when they came in such force that they drove the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, back 1 mile, and met the Third Division, and rallied with them, and checked the enemy a few moments, and then fell back about 2 miles and met the Nineteenth Army Corps, and the enemy was checked. The Thirteenth Corps fell back to Pleasant Hill, arriving there at 6 a. m. Saturday. The contest was heavy. The Nineteenth lost 20 officers and 225 men, the greater part prisoners. April 9, the regiment was consolidated with the Seventy-seventh Illinois, and then was ordered to march in the direction of Natchitoches, as guard for

wagon train; marched till 10 p. m., and went into camp, the day's march being 25 miles. Sunday, April 10, took up march at 5 o'clock, and marched to this place, and encamped above town. Monday, April 11, moved our camp below town. Nothing strange has happened since.

W. T. CUMMINS,
Capt., Comdg. Nineteenth Regt. Kentucky Vol. Infantry.

No. 25.

Report of Maj. Joseph E. Greene, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. TWENTY-THIRD REGT. WIS. VOL. INFTY.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with circular from your headquarters, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this command in the campaign from Natchitoches to Sabine Cross-Roads:

On the 5th instant I received marching orders, and on the morning of the 6th, the regiment rejoined the First Brigade, Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, and left Natchitoches, where it had been doing provost duty, at 7 a. m. We marched 17 miles that day, and went into camp. At 5.30 a. m., 7th instant, left camp and marched 18 miles to Pleasant Hill. Received orders that night to march at 5.30 a. m. in the morning. The order was countermanded and the hour for starting changed to 3 a. m. Started at the appointed time and marched about 8 miles, when we came up with General Lee's cavalry, and immediately took the advance; were formed in line in an open field, left resting on the road, and ordered to support the skirmishers and advance with them. The regiment advanced in this way, alternately marching in line of battle through the thick woods and underbrush and by the flank in the road, until about 12 m., driving the enemy before us. Arriving at an open field near Sabine Cross-Roads, were formed in line on the left of the road, and ordered to advance and take position on a hill and support Nims' battery and two howitzers of Sixth Missouri Cavalry. Remained in position until about 4 p. m., when the enemy were reported moving to attack us. One company was thrown out as skirmishers, but was soon compelled to fall back, the enemy appearing in view in force and pouring a hot fire into them. We held the position until the regiment on our right gave way, and then, being on the extreme left of the line of infantry, outflanked on both sides, and in imminent danger of capture, we were compelled to retire after all but one piece of the battery we were ordered to support was withdrawn. As we retired a destructive cross-fire swept through our ranks.

Nearly all of the casualties (64 killed, wounded, and missing) were sustained by the regiment while endeavoring to hold its first position. Parts of the regiment were subsequently rallied under their different officers, moved forward to the edge of the woods, and there did their utmost to stem the advance of the enemy, until their ammunition became exhausted and they were again forced to fall back. Subsequently the regiment was rallied in rear of the position held by the Nineteenth Corps, and remained until ordered to march back to Pleasant Hill, which place was reached early on the follow-

ing morning. From there we marched at about noon toward Natchitoches until 12 p. m. Started at sunrise 10th instant; marched 8 miles and camped; were detailed to guard prisoners; moved camp to cotton-gin on Grand Ecore road, and remained until sunrise the next day, when we rejoined the column and marched 12 miles to where we are now encamped.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, very respectfully,

JOS. E. GREENE,
Major, Commanding.

Lieut. HENRY P. AYRES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 26.

Report of Capt. Daniel De Camp, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois Infantry, Second Brigade, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HEADQUARTERS 130TH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,
Grand Encore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders I beg leave to make the following report: The One hundred and thirtieth Illinois left Natchitoches on the morning of the 6th of April, by order of Col. J. W. Vance, commanding Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, marching as third regiment in brigade; went into camp in a pine forest. Next morning started at 5.30 a. m., by order of Colonel Vance, and marched to Pleasant Hill, where we again encamped for the night. The next morning started at 5.30 a. m., by order of Colonel Vance, and moved toward the front and formed line of battle with the First Brigade between 1 and 2 p. m., where we remained until the charge. The order to advance was brought by Lieutenant Campbell, aide-de-camp to Colonel Vance; also the order to retreat by same.

DANIEL DE CAMP,
Captain Company D, Commanding Regiment.

Lieutenant BEASLEY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 27.

Report of Capt. James R. Lynch, Forty-eighth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. FORTY-EIGHTH OHIO INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. J. W. Lindsey, left Natchitoches, by order of Colonel Vance, commanding Second Brigade, on the morning of the 6th instant, at 7.15 o'clock, marched 18 miles, and went into camp at 4.30 p. m. in pine woods. Moved forward, April 7, at 6 a. m.; reached Pleasant Hill at 2 p. m., having marched 17 miles. Left camp at Pleasant Hill at 5.30 a. m. of the 8th instant, and marched

about 8 miles, when we moved to the left of the road with orders to stack arms and camp until further orders from Colonel Vance, commanding brigade. About an half hour after we were ordered forward to report to Colonel Landram, who was in the advance with the First Brigade. The regiment reported to Colonel Landram at 1.30 p. m., and was assigned to position on the left of the One hundred and thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was in line at right angles with the road, and to right of the road about 250 yards; the Nineteenth Kentucky Regiment Infantry Volunteers was moved into line on the right of the regiment a few minutes afterward. The regiment lay in the woods about two and a quarter hours, when it was ordered forward to meet the enemy, who were advancing. The regiment advanced to a fence about 250 yards in front, where it remained until ordered to fall back by Col. J. W. Vance, commanding Second Brigade.

JAMES R. LYNCH,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. WILLIAM A. BEASLEY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 28.

Report of Lieut. Col. William H. Baldwin, Eighty-third Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-THIRD REGT. OHIO VOL. INFANTRY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the Eighty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under my command from the time it left Natchitoches until the close of the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads: My regiment, together with the rest of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, by order of Col. W. J. Landram, commanding, left Natchitoches at 6.30 a. m. on Wednesday, the 6th instant; marched some 15 miles on the Pleasant Hill road, and encamped for the night.

On the morning of the 7th, the division moved soon after 6 o'clock, and reached Pleasant Hill at 1.30 o'clock, a march of 19 miles, but by reason of a heavy shower the teams did not arrive until 7 o'clock in the evening. Friday, 8th instant, division was ordered to march at 5.30 o'clock, but my regiment was detailed as guard for the ammunition train, which did not leave till an hour later, and at noon the rear of the train had not advanced more than 6 or 7 miles. About 12 m. Captain Dickey, assistant adjutant-general, ordered me to assemble my regiment, which was disposed as guard through the train, and move to the front as fast as possible to support the balance of the division. I immediately started with the rear guard and assembled the regiment as I passed the train, and moved rapidly through the train and troops to the front about 8 miles; upon arrival was ordered by Major Lieber, of General Banks' staff, to move my regiment to the right of the road diagonally toward the woods and form in line of battle. Immediately upon reaching the point designated, General Ransom ordered me to fix bayonets and advance in line of battle into the woods to support a battery. He conducted the regiment to its position, and ordered to stack arms

and unsling knapsacks, and to throw out a company to protect the right flank. Soon after, by order of Colonel Vance, 25 men were advanced as skirmishers. At about 3 o'clock received an order from General Ransom to advance through the woods and take a position at the edge of the field to the right of the Ninety-sixth Ohio. The enemy were advancing through the field in line of battle, and the regiment opened fire the moment they had gained the designated position. There was no infantry to the right of the Eighty-third. The enemy outflanked our line, and was closing in upon our right, when Captain ———, of General Ransom's staff, ordered me to take the regiment from the right and move it by the left flank to support the center, which was wavering. I asked him, as we were outflanked upon the right, to allow me to change the front of my regiment diagonally to the line of battle, and endeavor to hold my position and protect the right, but he assured me that the last order must be obeyed, and I immediately moved my regiment by the left in good order to the position to which he guided me, but found that the line we were to support, with the exception of a portion of the Chicago Mercantile Battery, had fallen back to the crest of the hill, to which line the regiment also fell back, by order of General Ransom. Here a stand was made, but after a short time were compelled to fall back with the cavalry and artillery over the crest of the hill, where we were supplied with ammunition. Under command of Lieut. Col. A. H. Brown, commanding the brigade, my regiment and the Ninety-sixth Ohio changed front perpendicular to the line of battle and advanced about 300 yards to the right of the line and threw forward skirmishers 50 yards, who were immediately engaged, when a line of rebels concealed among the bushes arose not more than 50 yards from the left flank of the line. The line, whose right flank we were endeavoring to protect, was falling back, and our two regiments, under a front, flank, and reverse fire, were of no further service to protect the line, and to avoid being surrounded fell back. An imperfect line was again formed, but soon broken by retreating cavalry. The same attempt was repeated, but with little success. After passing the line of battle of the Nineteenth Corps about 400 men from my own and other regiments were formed in line and moved to the left of the road to support the line of battle. About 8 o'clock the regiment was assembled at division headquarters, and at 10 o'clock, by order of General Cameron, moved in the direction of Pleasant Hill. The loss of the regiment in killed, wounded, and missing was 3 officers and 26 men.

I have the honor to be, captain, your obedient servant,

W. H. BALDWIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. H. P. AYRES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 29.

Report of Capt. Joseph Leonard, Ninety-sixth Ohio Infantry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OHIO VOL. INFTY.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that this regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. A. H. Brown, left Natchitoches at 7.15 a. m., April

6, by order of Colonel Vance, commanding Second Brigade, our position immediately behind the Eighty-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was the first regiment of our brigade, the First Brigade of our division being in advance; marched 16 miles and went into camp at 4.30 p. m. in pine woods. Left camp April 7, at 6 a. m., our regiment in front of the division, by order of Colonel Vance, commanding Second Brigade, the Third Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, in advance; reached Pleasant Hill and went into camp at 2 p. m., having marched 19 miles. Left camp at Pleasant Hill at 6 a. m. the morning of the 8th, our regiment in rear of brigade, by order of Colonel Vance; marched 5 miles; were halted, and our regiment ordered to remain behind and guard the ammunition train and Mercantile Battery, and advance with them when ordered forward. About 12 m. the regiment was ordered to the front by Captain Dickey, assistant adjutant-general to General Ransom. After advancing rapidly about 4 miles, an order came from the rear from Captain White, chief of artillery on General Ransom's staff, to halt the regiment and guard the battery as ordered by General Ransom. Upon the return of Captain Dickey from ordering up the Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry we moved forward again under his orders, he assuring Lieutenant-Colonel Brown that Captain White was acting under former orders, and for us to be in front at the earliest moment practicable. Arriving in front we were assigned our position by General Ransom in person, upon the left of the Nineteenth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. In about twenty minutes the Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry arrived and was put in position on our right, with the Sixteenth Indiana Cavalry* in front. After remaining in that position a very few moments after the arrival of the Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry we were ordered by General Ransom in person to advance, with skirmishers in front, to a fence in front of the cavalry. A few moments after our arrival at the fence the enemy in immense numbers made their appearance in our front. The regiment at once opened fire upon them, and after two attempts on their part to carry our position, drove them entirely from the field before us. In about fifteen minutes, and when the enemy had disappeared from our front, we were ordered to fall back by Colonel Vance, commanding Second Brigade, and had moved in good order about 150 yards to the rear, when a large body of the enemy that had turned the right flank of our first line were seen advancing rapidly to intercept us. The regiment at once formed a line to confront them, delivered an effective volley, and was reloading, when an aide-de-camp gave peremptory orders to withdraw beyond the enemy's advancing flank at double-quick, as the regiments on our left had already been cut off. This movement was carried out in as good order as the uneven ground would admit of, though for the entire distance we were exposed to an enfilading fire. At the crest of the hill we faced about on the line separating the cleared land and timber, and as Colonel Vance had received a severe wound in the breast and fallen into the enemy's hand, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown assumed command of the brigade. Under his direction the further progress of the enemy was stubbornly disputed, and a battery considerably advanced from our lines, having become unserviceable and its safety endangered by the enemy's near approach, was successfully removed under cover of our fire. It being evident that the rebels were

*Mounted infantry.

advancing in heavy force on our right, the brigade was formed by Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, in the immediate presence of Major-Generals Banks and Franklin, and by their consent moved to the new point of danger. Here we advanced in line of battle, with skirmishers in front, but the enemy had already gained the cover of the thick underbrush, and from their ambush threw a heavy fire into our front and left. This was followed on their part by a vigorous charge, and their longer line considerably outflanking ours we were forced to retire from the field.

JOSEPH LEONARD,
Captain, Commanding.

Lieutenant AYRES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 30.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, commanding detachments of Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS RED RIVER EXPEDITION,
Alexandria, La., March 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 21st instant I ordered Brigadier-General Mower, with the First Division and Eighty-ninth [Indiana] Regiment, of the Third Division, with the Ninth Indiana Battery, together with one brigade of General Lee's cavalry, to make a reconnaissance up the Bayou Rapides to Henderson's Hill, some 24 miles distant, when he encountered the Second Louisiana Cavalry and captured a portion of it, with a battery of four guns, with caissons, horses, and equipments complete. Number of prisoners taken about 275, 20 of the number officers, with 150 horses. Our loss very slight. I will make a more complete report as soon as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. J. SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Department of the Tennessee.

P. S.—General Lee, commanding the cavalry, is the only portion of General Banks' army yet arrived. General Franklin is within two days' march, with the infantry and artillery. General Banks is looked for hourly from New Orleans by the river. The river is now rising, and I hope we will be able to ascend it with our gunboats and transports soon after the arrival of the forces from below.
A. J. S.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
Saint Louis, Mo., November 1, 1865.

General J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff to Lieutenant-General Grant,
Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit you herewith the very interesting report of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, with sub-reports and statistics of the operations of his command up Red River, La., in

the spring of 1864. By its date you will perceive that General Smith did not make the report till quite recently, in pursuance of my request made in person, but now the report is full, satisfactory, and completely fills up a gap in the history of the period. After showing it to the lieutenant-general, I beg you to file it with the Adjutant-General of the Army.

I am, with great respect,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SAINT LOUIS, MO., *September* 26, 1865.

GENERAL: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to report in full, as follows, the operations of the detachments of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, under my command, forming a part of the Red River expedition in 1864. Partial reports were made and forwarded to Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks from time to time, including lists of casualties and captures. The troops under my command, consisting of five regiments of infantry of the First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, ten regiments of infantry and two batteries of light artillery of the Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps (my own division), and six regiments of infantry and one battery of light artillery from the Seventeenth Army Corps, under the command of Brig. Gen. Thomas Kilby Smith, left Vicksburg at 6 p. m. on the 10th day of March, 1864, on transports, pursuant to orders from you, which were in effect as follows:

To proceed with the command to the mouth of the Red River, where I would find Admiral Porter with a portion of the Mississippi Squadron to convoy my fleet up Red River, and after conference with him to proceed to Alexandria, La., and report to Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks, commanding Department of the Gulf, reaching Alexandria, if possible, on the 17th of March, from which point Major-General Banks would assume the command and direction of the expedition in person.

On arriving at the mouth of the Red River, at about 12 m., March 11, 1864, a dispatch was received from Major-General Banks, stating that the heavy rains had so delayed his column that he would not be able to reach Alexandria before March 21, 1864. On conferring with Admiral Porter, I learned that Fort De Russy, a strong fort on the right bank of Red River, equidistant from the mouth of Red River and Alexandria, and mounting ten guns, had been garrisoned by the enemy and which it would be necessary to take before we could proceed to Alexandria. It was therefore deemed best to act against it in conjunction, the army in the rear by land and the navy by river. Leaving the mouth of Red River at about 12 m., March 12, 1864, we proceeded up Red River to the mouth of the Atchafalaya Bayou; thence with the transports down the Atchafalaya Bayou to Simsport, a point on its right bank near the mouth of Bayou De Glaize and 30 miles by land from Fort De Russy, reaching Simsport at about 5 p. m. of the same day.

On the morning of the 13th, I sent out the two divisions of the Sixteenth Army Corps, under command of Brig. Gen. J. A. Mower, with directions to move out about 5 miles on the Fort De Russy road, capture or disperse any parties of the enemy in that vicinity, and gain all the information possible of the state of the roads and posi-

tion of the enemy. The division of the Seventeenth Army Corps was ordered under arms to be in readiness to support him if necessary. About 3 miles from the landing, in the fork of the Yellow Bayou and Bayou De Glaize, General Mower came upon a brigade of the enemy, under command of General William R. Scurry, occupying a fort, then in process of construction, but who abandoned their work and fled at his approach. He pursued them about 2 miles, capturing 6 of their wagons and about 20 prisoners, when, having gained the necessary information and having no cavalry with which to make an effectual pursuit, I ordered him to return with his command to the landing. I immediately disembarked my land transportation, and, directing the transports to join the Mississippi Squadron under command of Admiral Porter and proceed with it to Fort De Russy, moved forward my whole command on the road to Fort De Russy. Leaving the landing at about 9 p. m., we bivouacked for the night 4 miles from Simsport. At 3 o'clock on the morning of the 14th, I again moved forward toward Fort De Russy. Two bridges which we had to cross were set on fire by the retreating brigade of the enemy, but were extinguished by our advance before they were seriously damaged. On reaching Mansura I learned that the bridges across the Bayou De Glaize had been destroyed, and that the rebel General Walker, commanding a division, had marched out from Fort De Russy with his command to the point where he supposed we would cross the bayou, about 5 miles west from Mansura, had formed a junction with Scurry's brigade, and intended to oppose our crossing. I immediately ordered the bayou to be bridged at Mansura, taking the material from an old cotton-gin, and by crossing companies at the same time on a ferry-boat had my whole command across before General Walker was aware that the advance had halted. Directing General Thomas Kilby Smith, who was at the rear of my column, to keep well closed up and watch carefully the left flank and rear, I at once moved forward toward Fort De Russy, leaving General Walker and his command on the left.

On arriving near the fort I found that it was occupied by a garrison of about 350 men. I therefore halted my column 1½ miles from the fort, and, after covering my left flank and rear from any attack that Walker could possibly make, directed General Mower to advance with the First and Second Brigades of the Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in line of battle, with skirmishers thrown well to the front, followed by the Third Brigade within supporting distance. As soon as the line came within sight of the fort the enemy opened upon it with five pieces of artillery from the fort, doing, however, but little execution. Their guns on the land side all being en barbette, the skirmishers of the Second Brigade soon silenced them. At about 6.30 p. m. the order to charge was given, and the First and Second Brigades advanced under a scattering fire from the enemy, whose infantry were kept down by my skirmishers, and scaled the parapet within twenty minutes from the time the order to charge was given. The enemy then surrendered. Our loss was 3 killed and 35 wounded; total, 38. Full lists of casualties and captures accompany this report. We captured 319 prisoners, 10 pieces of artillery, and a large quantity of ordnance and ordnance stores, marching during the day 26 miles, bridging a bayou, and capturing the fort before sunset. Among the pieces of artillery taken were two 9-inch Dahlgren guns, which were captured by the enemy, one from the steamer Indianola and one from the Harriet

Lane. Owing to obstructions in the river the gun-boat fleet did not arrive until after the fort was captured. Of the artillery captured, four pieces were in the fort and six in a water battery on the bank of the river, about 400 yards from the fort, connected with it by a covered way. Two of the guns in the water battery were casemated, and the casemate plated with a double thickness of railroad iron. The fleet arrived during the night, and the gun-boats passed up the river. The artillery captured, with the exception of two 6-pounder iron guns, was taken on board the several boats of the fleet. All ordnance and ordnance stores captured have been taken up and accounted for by Lieut. J. B. Pannes, Seventeenth New York Infantry, acting ordnance officer.

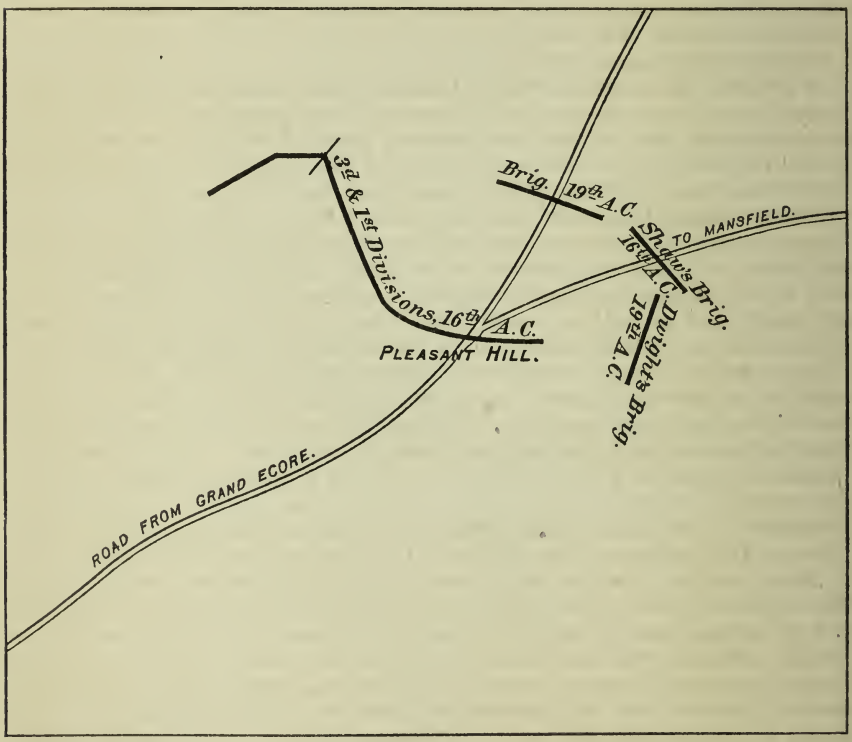
On the evening of the 15th instant I sent Brigadier-General Mower, with the First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, on transports to occupy Alexandria, retaining at Fort De Russy General Thomas Kilby Smith's command, of the Seventeenth Army Corps, for the purpose of dismantling the fort and destroying effectually the magazines and casemates. This was accomplished on the 15th, 16th, and 17th, by tearing down the revetments on the inside of the parapet and digging ditches across the parapet, so that, from the nature of the soil of which it was constructed, the first rain-storm would nearly level it. The magazines, which were bomb-proof and four in number, were totally destroyed by blowing them up with a portion of the powder captured. The casemates were destroyed by piling wood under them and burning them down, the iron bending with the heat. Before they were burned the gun-boat Essex tested their strength with a 100-pounder Parrott at a distance of about 300 yards, firing three shots. The projectile in each case cut through the iron plating, but was stopped by the oak backing. The two 6-pounder iron guns were also destroyed by bursting. On the morning of the 18th, I left with the remainder of my command for Alexandria, at which place we arrived about 5 p. m. same day.

General Mower, upon his arrival on the 16th, found the place had been evacuated but a few hours before, the enemy retreating toward Natchitoches. He took possession of three pieces of artillery and some ordnance stores, which the enemy had not time to remove. My instructions being to report to Major-General Banks at this place I disembarked my command and went into camp, he not having arrived. On the morning of the 19th, 100 cavalry, sent forward with dispatches from the advance of the land column of General Banks' command, arrived. On the 20th, the Cavalry Division of his command, under command of Brig. Gen. A. L. Lee, arrived and went into camp, and the same day Brigadier-General Stone, chief of staff, with a portion of the staff of Major-General Banks, came by river. Learning that a portion of General Dick Taylor's command were in the vicinity of Henderson's Hill, on Bayou Rapides, about 22 miles from Alexandria, on the direct road to Natchitoches, I directed Brigadier-General Mower to take the First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, one regiment of infantry and one battery of light artillery from the Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, and the First Brigade, Cavalry Division, of General Lee's command, and proceed to Henderson's Hill, dislodge the enemy from that position, and send forward his cavalry to Red River, clearing all the country between Bayou Rapides and Red River. Leaving Alexandria on the morning of the 21st, General Mower reached the vicinity of Henderson's Hill the same night and found it occupied by the enemy with both cav-

alry and artillery. Leaving three regiments of infantry, one section of the battery, and the cavalry to occupy the attention of the enemy in front, he took two regiments of infantry, one section of the battery, and the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry and made a detour to the left under cover of the darkness and came in on their rear. Here, capturing a courier who had been sent from the hill with dispatches for General Dick Taylor, he succeeded in obtaining the countersign; and learning from the dispatches that there was only one regiment of cavalry and one battery of artillery on the hill he moved forward and completely surprised the whole force, capturing them in detail at their camp-fires without a shot being fired. The regiment was the Second Louisiana (rebel) Cavalry, with horses and equipments, and Edgar's battery of light artillery, of four pieces, all complete, the prisoners numbering 262. The detachment making the capture had marched that day over 30 miles through rain and mud. On the morning of the 22d, General Mower returned with his command to Alexandria.

On the 26th, General Banks having arrived, I was directed by him to march my command to Cotile Landing and await the arrival of our transports, it being considered dangerous to attempt to take them over the falls with the troops on them. I arrived with the command at Cotile Landing on the 28th; embarked the troops as the transports arrived, and on the 2d of April proceeded up the river, with orders to report to Major-General Banks at Grand Ecore. Arrived at Grand Ecore on the 3d, and was ordered by Major-General Banks to be in readiness to leave for Shreveport by land on the 7th instant, and to send the transports with all surplus subsistence stores, baggage, &c., with sufficient guard, by water to the mouth of Loggy Bayou; at that point to await further orders. I accordingly detached Brig. Gen. Thomas Kilby Smith with his Seventeenth Corps for duty with the boats, and directed him to consult with Admiral Porter as to the time and manner of starting. I left with the two divisions of the Sixteenth Corps on the 7th instant, bringing up the rear of the land column. General T. Kilby Smith also left on the same day with the transports, and his report of this part of the expedition is herewith submitted. Moving toward Pleasant Hill in the rear of the land column, the trains of the cavalry, Thirteenth, and Sixteenth Corps, all being in front of me, and the roads very bad, my progress was consequently slow. We kept well closed up, however, on the train, and encamped on the night of the 7th about 8 miles from Grand Ecore. Moving forward at daylight on the morning of the 8th, we encamped at night about 2 miles from Pleasant Hill, having marched about 21 miles. Heard heavy cannonading in front during the afternoon, and sent forward word to General Banks my exact position, and also stated that if he desired I could pass the train with a portion or all of my command. Soon after I learned that the cause of the cannonading was an attack by the enemy upon the cavalry and the Thirteenth Army Corps, which were in the advance about 8 miles beyond Pleasant Hill, and whom the enemy had repulsed and totally routed, capturing their artillery and wagons, and with a loss of nearly one-half the Thirteenth Corps, and that the enemy were only checked by night and the Nineteenth Corps. Ordering my men to bivouac upon their arms, and throwing out pickets to their flanks and rear, we rested until morning, when, by permission of General Banks, I moved forward to Pleasant Hill and formed line of battle across the Mansfield road. During the night and morning the re-

maining and disorganized parties of the cavalry and Thirteenth Army Corps arriving, passed through the lines and halted. Early in the morning they, with the trains, were ordered to proceed immediately to Grand Ecore, leaving on the field part of the Nineteenth and two divisions of the Sixteenth Army Corps. Line of battle was formed as follows: First Brigade of General Emory's command of the Nineteenth Corps on the extreme right and right flank, the Third and First Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, on the right and left center, and the remaining troops of the Thirteenth Corps on the extreme left and left flank, my right lapping a brigade on Emory's left and about 400 yards in its rear. The Second Brigade, Third Division, Col. William T. Shaw commanding, was ordered early in the morning to report to Brigadier-General Emory, and was stationed in front of the center of his command.



The enemy's skirmishers appeared on Colonel Shaw's front about noon, and there was desultory skirmishing at different parts of the line until about 4.30 p. m., when the enemy made his attack on the right center, driving in the outposts and the brigade of the Nineteenth Corps in my front through my line, they reforming in my rear. Advancing my line slightly to be able to close with and support Shaw's brigade, the battle immediately became general. The enemy had been re-enforced during the afternoon with two divisions of infantry from Price's command, and their troops, flushed with their success of the previous day, seemed determined to break through our line, charging it with desperate energy. Fearing that

Shaw's brigade might be totally enveloped, I directed him to fall back and connect with my right. In the mean time the enemy's right had advanced beyond my extreme left and were taken in flank and rolled up by the First Brigade, Third Division, Col. William F. Lynch commanding. Seizing the opportunity I ordered a charge by the whole line, and we drove them back, desperately fighting, step by step across the field, through the wood, and into the open field beyond, fully a mile from the battle-field, when they took advantage of the darkness and fell back toward Mansfield thoroughly whipped and demoralized. In the charge we captured nearly 1,000 prisoners, five pieces of artillery, and six caissons. The artillery was brought off, but the caissons were left until morning. The casualties in my command were as follows: Killed, 98; wounded, 529; missing, 124; total, 751.* A large proportion of the missing were of the Thirty-second Iowa, which was on the left of Shaw's brigade, and were nearly surrounded in the early part of the battle during the enemy's first charge. The loss of the enemy in killed was unusually severe.

A brigade of cavalry which charged Shaw's brigade in the early part of the action were almost annihilated, he allowing them to approach within 50 yards before opening fire. The prisoners captured were many of them from Missouri regiments, belonging to the divisions that had re-enforced the enemy during the engagement. The darkness compelled us to cease pursuit.

Anticipating the order to follow up our success by a vigorous pursuit, the next morning I sent the Third Brigade, Third Division, Col. R. M. Moore commanding, about 2½ miles out on the road taken by the retreating enemy, with orders to watch their movements and gain all the information possible, and fell back with the remainder of my command and bivouacked in line on the field of battle. The opinion of Major-General Banks as to the action of the command and its results may be gathered from his own words to me on the field just after the final charge, when, riding up to me, he remarked, shaking me by the hand, "God bless you, general; you have saved the army."

About 12 o'clock on the night of the 9th, I received orders from General Banks to have my command in readiness to move at 2 o'clock in the morning, and at that hour to withdraw them silently from the field and follow the Nineteenth Army Corps back to Grand Ecore, making such disposition of my troops and trains as would enable me to repel an attack on the rear of the column. I represented to him that the dead of my command were not buried, and that I had not the means of transporting my wounded; that many of the wounded had not yet been gathered in from the field, and asked of him permission to remain until noon the next day to give me an opportunity to bury my dead and leave the wounded as well provided for as the circumstances would permit. I also urged the fact that General Thomas Kilby Smith's command, then 30 miles above us on transports in the river, would undoubtedly be captured and the transports lost if left to themselves. The permission to remain was, however, refused and the order to move made peremptory. I therefore provided as well as possible for the wounded, left medical officers to attend to them, and moved at the designated hour, following the Nineteenth Corps. We reached Grand Ecore on the

* But see revised statement, p. 313.

evening of the 11th, no attack on the rear having been made by the enemy, and went into camp. On the evening of the 13th, nothing having been heard from a portion of our transports save that they had been attacked with infantry and artillery upon both sides of the river, I marched up with two brigades of my command on the north bank of the river to help them through, if possible, crossing the river at Grand Ecore at about 4 p. m. We reached Campti, 12 miles above, the same night and met a portion of the fleet there, they having by energy, good judgment, and rare good fortune succeeded in running the batteries and land forces of the enemy without the loss of a boat, though some were completely riddled with shot. The report of Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith accompanies this, and you are also respectfully referred to the report of Rear-Admiral D. D. Porter, already on file. On the 14th, I returned to Grand Ecore with the rear of the fleet.

Pursuant to orders from Major-General Banks, after placing a proper guard on each of my transports, with directions for them to proceed down the river to Alexandria, I moved with the remainder of my command on the 20th to Natchitoches. Occupying this place as a *point de resistance* with my troops, the remainder of General Banks' forces passed between us and the river, continuing the retreat to Alexandria.

On the morning of the 21st, I left Natchitoches and fell in the rear of the land column, which position I occupied with my command, alternating the divisions day by day until we reached Alexandria. From the day of our leaving Natchitoches, the enemy pushed the pursuit vigorously; the rear was skirmishing every day and nearly all day. Twice during the march we were obliged to form line and teach them a lesson. At Cloutierville, on the 23d, they charged the rear division, General T. Kilby Smith's, but he repulsed them neatly and thoroughly after about an hour's fighting. During this engagement in the rear, the advance, having reached Cane River, found the bluffs on the other side occupied by a small force of the enemy, who disputed the crossing. Although the cavalry, Thirteenth, and Nineteenth Corps, were in advance of me, and notwithstanding the engagement with the enemy's cavalry in the rear, General Banks sent back an order for me to send General Mower with a strong brigade to force the passage of Cane River. Fearing to weaken my line during the engagement, I answered him in substance that it would be impracticable for me to comply with the order. Later in the day the passage was easily forced by detachments of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps. On the afternoon of the 26th, we reached Alexandria and went into camp in line of battle, the Nineteenth Corps on the right, the Thirteenth Corps in advance of the center, and my command on the left. We remained in the vicinity of Alexandria in the same relative position until the 13th of May, the interim being occupied in getting the gun-boats over the falls and daily skirmishing with the enemy.

On the 28th of April, the enemy having driven in the skirmishers of the Thirteenth Corps, the corps fell back reluctantly, in compliance, it was said, with orders from Major-General Banks, three times repeated, abandoning and setting on fire their camp and garrison equipage, stores, and forage. Not knowing that it was done by order, I took the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, Col. William T. Shaw commanding, and put out the fire,

rescued the stores, and saved much of the camp and garrison equipage. This brigade remained on the ground until the next morning, when it returned to its camp.

On the 13th of May, the boats having passed the falls, the retreat was again resumed, my command falling into its old place in the rear. Continuing down the river as far as Fort De Russy, in order to be at hand to protect the boats if necessary, we reached the fort on the night of the 14th. From this point the guards on the boats were considered sufficient to protect them, and they were therefore ordered around to Simsport, on the Atchafalaya Bayou, toward which the land column was turned. On the 15th instant, while crossing Avoyelles Prairie, a brigade of the enemy's cavalry, with about twelve pieces of artillery, appeared in front and attempted to delay and annoy the column. My command was ordered forward into line on the right of the Nineteenth Corps, the Thirteenth Corps being on the extreme left. Line being formed, I sent Capt. William S. Burns, acting assistant inspector-general of my staff, to report the fact and ask for instructions, which were given him by Brig. Gen. William Dwight, chief of staff of Major-General Banks, in the following words: "Say to General Smith that the Thirteenth Corps will press their (the enemy's) right. He with his command will attack their left, while with the Nineteenth Corps we pierce their center."

As the several commands moved forward in line to execute these instructions, the brigade of cavalry galloped away, taking their artillery with them. We reached the vicinity of Simsport on the 16th, skirmishing with the pursuing cavalry. Our boats being there, a bridge was made of them across the Atchafalaya, and on the 17th, 18th, and 19th, the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps and the cavalry crossed the bayou.

On the 18th of May, while lying in line protecting the crossing of the other corps, the enemy made a severe attack on the lines, driving in the skirmishers. I was at the time at the landing, but had left orders with General Mower, in case the enemy attacked, to use whatever force was necessary to drive them back. He therefore ordered the line forward, driving them easily for about 2 miles across an open field and through a briar thicket, thickly interspersed with dead trees on the other side, beyond which he found them drawn up in force far outnumbering his, with about twenty pieces of artillery posted to support them. Withdrawing to the edge of the first field General Mower formed line, concealed by the thicket, and bringing his artillery up to close range awaited their advance. They soon came, when, after giving them a few rounds of canister and case-shot, he ordered a charge with the bayonet, repulsing them with terrible slaughter and driving them again through the thicket into the field beyond under protection of their artillery.

Withdrawing to his old position near the thicket they charged him again, and were a second time driven back with severe loss. The firing during the second charge set the thicket on fire, so that it formed a barrier impassable for either party. Withdrawing his troops to the open field, General Mower sent those that had been the heaviest engaged to their camps and formed a new line with the remainder, who bivouacked in line during the night. We captured 156 prisoners in the charge. Our loss was: Killed, 38; wounded, 226; missing, 3; total, 267. Lists of casualties and captures are herewith

inclosed, with reports of brigade and division commanders. No further attack was made, and pursuit by the enemy stopped from this day.

I crossed the bridge on the 20th, bringing up the rear, and marched to Red River Landing, on the Mississippi River, whither our boats had been sent, and reported, by order of Major-General Banks, to Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby for further orders, and was by him directed to proceed to Vicksburg with my command, which I did, reaching that place on the 23d of May, having been gone seventy-four days.

The results of the expedition may be summed up as follows: I captured with my command 22 pieces of artillery, 1,757 prisoners, and Fort De Russy, with a strong casemated battery, which the gunboats would not have been able to pass. My loss was 153 killed, 849 wounded, and 133 missing; total, 1,135; also 1 6-mule wagon. My entire command numbered originally 9,200.

Of the general officers attached to my command I cannot speak too highly. Brig. Gen. (now Maj. Gen.) J. A. Mower, by his perception and prompt action at Fort De Russy, Henderson's Hill, and Pleasant Hill, and by his gallantry and skill at Yellow Bayou, near Simsport, May 18, has won the right to a high estimate and position in the annals of the war. Quick perception, ready courage, an abundant vitality, added to skill and education, give him the power to sway men as if by magnetism. Brig. Gen. Thomas Kilby Smith, with excellent judgment and skill, brought the boats safely through the intricacies and shoals of Red River back to Grand Ecore, although continually under fire. His repulse of the cavalry charge upon his division at Cloutierville was well and neatly done. I commend him as a gallant officer and gentleman. I had hearty and energetic co-operation on the part of my brigade commanders, two of whom, Col. S. G. Hill, Thirty-fifth Iowa, and Col. William F. Lynch, Fifty-eighth Illinois, were severely wounded. Col. William T. Shaw, Fourteenth Iowa, commanding brigade, proved himself an excellent officer and rendered invaluable service at Fort De Russy, Pleasant Hill, and Yellow Bayou. He is a brave, energetic, and intelligent officer.

To all the officers and men of the command praise is due for their cheerful, enduring, and ready obedience. Each and all the officers of my staff were untiring and active in their respective duties. I am much indebted to their intelligent action and ready appreciation of the situation. Arms, eyes, and heads seemed their main attributes during the whole campaign. I add their names as a matter of record, as their well-deserved promotion has overtaken all who are now in service: Capt. John Hough, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. William S. Burns, Fourth Missouri Cavalry, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. J. J. Lyon, Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, judge-advocate; Surg. N. R. Derby, medical director, wounded May 18; Maj. E. A. Warner, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, provost-marshal; Capt. Ross Wilkinson, aide-de-camp; Capt. Samuel Caldwell, Eighth Illinois Infantry, acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. George W. Fetterman, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, assistant commissary of musters; Lieut. John B. Pannes, Seventeenth New York Infantry, ordnance officer.

I have the honor to be, with much respect, your obedient servant,

A. J. SMITH,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman.

ADDENDA.

Return of Casualties in the detachment of the Sixteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Smith, U. S. Army, at Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864

[Compiled from nominal list of casualties.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
FIRST AND THIRD DIVISIONS.							
Brig. Gen. JOSEPH A. MOWER.							
First Division.							
Second Brigade, Col. Lucius F. Hubbard:							
47th Illinois	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	2	9
5th Minnesota	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
8th Wisconsin	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	3	10
Third Brigade, Col. Sylvester G. Hill:							
35th Iowa *a*	1	5	3	54	.....	1	64
33d Missouri *b*	.....	3	1	11	.....	1	16
Total	1	8	4	65	.....	2	80
Total First Division	1	8	4	72	.....	5	90
Third Division.							
First Brigade, Col. William F. Lynch:							
58th Illinois	1	4	.....	31	.....	.....	36
119th Illinois	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	3
89th Indiana *c*	.....	6	2	48	.....	2	58
Total	1	11	2	81	.....	2	97
Second Brigade, Col. William T. Shaw:							
14th Iowa	5	14	1	60	.....	9	89
27th Iowa	.....	4	5	65	.....	14	88
32d Iowa	2	33	5	110	2	58	210
24th Missouri *d*	1	8	3	77	.....	7	96
Total	8	59	14	312	2	88	483
Third Brigade, Col. Risdon M. Moore:							
49th Illinois	.....	8	1	29	.....	11	49
117th Illinois	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
178th New York	.....	2	5	17	.....	7	31
Total	.....	10	6	46	.....	18	80
Total Third Division	9	80	22	439	2	108	660
Artillery.							
Indiana Light, 3d Battery	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	3
Total	10	88	26	514	2	113	753

a Non-veterans, Eighth and Twelfth Iowa attached.
b Non-veterans, Eleventh Missouri attached.
c Non-veterans, Fifty-second Indiana attached.
d Non-veterans, Twenty-first Missouri attached.

*Abstract from lists of ordnance and ordnance stores captured by detachments of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps in the Red River campaign.**

	Place and date.			
	Fort De Russy, March 14.	Alexandria, March 16.[a]	Henderson's Hill, March 21.[a]	Total.
Guns and howitzers:				
9-inch Dahlgrens	2	.....	.....	2
32-pounder rifle	1	.....	.....	1
32-pounder smooth-bore	1	.....	.....	1
32-pounder carronades	2	.....	.....	2
24-pounders	2	.....	.....	2
12-pounder howitzers	.....	1	2	3
12-pounder howitzers, iron	.....	1	.....	1
6-pounders	.....	1	2	3
6-pounders, iron	2	.....	.....	2
Artillery carriages:				
9-inch Dahlgren barbette	1	.....	.....	1
9-inch Dahlgren casemate	1	.....	.....	1
32-pounder barbettes	4	.....	.....	4
24-pounder barbettes	2	.....	.....	2
12-pounder howitzers	.....	2	2	4
12-pounder howitzer caissons	.....	2	2	4
6-pounder field and caissons	2	1	2	5
Small-arms:				
Rifles	56	.....	.....	56
Muskets, smooth-bore	117	.....	.....	117

[a] By First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, and First Brigade, Cavalry Division, Department of the Gulf.

Abstract from nominal lists of prisoners captured by Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith's command in the Red River campaign.

Place and date.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Corps, regiments, etc., represented.
Fort De Russy, March 14	1	.....	C. S. Engineers.
	1	.....	C. S. Quartermaster's Department.
	2	.....	1st Louisiana Artillery.
	.....	1	3d Louisiana Cavalry, Company H.
	4	25	Crescent (Louisiana) Regiment.
	1	44	Saint Martin's Siege Battery.
	.....	3	Cassidy's cavalry.
	.....	1	8th Texas, non-commissioned staff.
	3	42	11th Texas, Company A.
	....	5	13th Texas, Company E.
	3	19	14th Texas, regimental staff, and Company G.
	3	30	16th Texas, Companies A, B, E, and I.
	1	39	17th Texas, Companies A, B, D, E, G, I, and K.
	1	21	18th Texas, Company H.
	3	32	19th Texas, Companies A and H.
	2	19	22d Texas, Company E.
	.....	11	28th Texas Cavalry, Companies D and I.
Total	25	292	
Henderson's Hill, March 21	1	.....	Staff of Major-General Taylor.
	1	.....	C. S. Artillery.
	15	192	2d Louisiana Cavalry.
	1	.....	Crescent (Louisiana) Regiment.
	.....	2	16th Texas Cavalry, Company G.
	4	45	Edgar's battery.
Total	22	239	
Grand total	47	531	

*Statement of ammunition, equipments, implements, &c., omitted.

No. 31.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, U. S. Army, commanding detachment of Sixteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., March 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with orders from Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Red River expedition, I moved on the 21st instant, with the Second and Third Brigades of the First Division, the Eighty-ninth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and the Ninth Indiana Battery, from the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, together with First Brigade of General Lee's cavalry, up Bayou Rapides to Henderson's Hill, 24 miles distant, where I encountered and captured a portion of the Second Louisiana Cavalry and Edgar's (Texas) battery of four guns, with caissons, horses, and equipments. The number of prisoners taken, about 275, with 150 horses. Our losses very slight. I will make a more complete report as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. J. HOUGH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., March 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with orders received from General A. J. Smith, I moved out from Alexandria on the morning of the 21st instant for the purpose of driving the enemy from Henderson's Hill, where they were reported to have an outpost. The expedition consisted of the Second Brigade, First Division, Colonel Hubbard commanding; the Third Brigade, First Division, Colonel Hill commanding; the Eighty-ninth Regiment Indiana Infantry Volunteers, and the Ninth Indiana Battery; also a brigade of cavalry under Colonel Lucas, of the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, that regiment forming a portion of his command. A small party of the enemy's cavalry was met about 13 miles out from Alexandria, and rapidly driven by Colonel Lucas for 10 miles, when our advance came within range of the enemy's battery, consisting of four field guns, in position on Henderson's Hill. I directed the cavalry to annoy the enemy in front while I crossed a bayou with Colonel Hubbard's brigade and the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, of Colonel Lucas' command, together with a section of artillery, for the purpose of getting in the enemy's rear and capturing him. My guide, in endeavoring to take me by a near route to the rear of the hill, led me into a swamp which was impassable. I then found a road, which I followed, and from which I made my way to the enemy's camp, where I captured about 250 prisoners, 200 horses, and 4 guns, together with their caissons. The enemy were picked up in detail. The Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry were in advance until we came near the hill; they then moved off the

road on which the infantry advanced. Captain Sample, my assistant adjutant-general, was the first man that arrived at the first section of the enemy's guns; their horses were harnessed and hitched. The Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry were in advance of the infantry, and came up with the guns immediately after Captain Sample, who himself captured several small parties of the rebels. The Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry claim to have captured the next section, which was posted up the road; none of them were there, however, when the Thirty-fifth Iowa arrived at the guns; the men of the Sixteenth Indiana may have been first at the guns and left them for the purpose of capturing prisoners. After capturing the battery and men, I recrossed the bayou and went into camp, having marched 30 miles that day. On the morning of the 22d, I returned to Alexandria.

I would respectfully call attention to the conduct of Captain Sample, my assistant adjutant-general, who, by his coolness and prudence, captured many squads of the enemy at their camp-fires without allowing them to fire a gun. Also to the gallantry of one of my orderlies, Private Deacon J. Whittaker, Second Iowa Battery, who, while carrying a dispatch, captured a rebel major and two privates and brought them in. I recommend him for promotion. No casualties to report. I send herewith an inventory of ordnance and ordnance stores captured.* A list of prisoners has already been forwarded.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,

Brig. Gen., Comdg. First and Third Divs., 16th A. C.

Capt. J. HOUGH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
On Steamer Des Moines, March 31, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to the orders of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, I advanced on Fort De Russy on the 14th instant at 4.30 p. m. I made the following disposition of the troops: Colonel Shaw's brigade on the right of the road, excepting one regiment, the Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, which was moved up on the left, the Third Indiana Battery near the road. While getting these troops into position the enemy opened fire, throwing shell and shrapnel. Colonel Lynch's brigade was then put in position to the left and rear of the fort. I then moved forward the Twenty-fourth Missouri at a double-quick. This was the signal for the assault. The troops advanced in gallant style, the regiments vying with each other in their efforts to be the first in the enemy's works. The regiments of Colonel Lynch's brigade arrived at the works at the same moment with the Twenty-fourth Missouri, of Colonel Shaw's brigade, but owing to their (the Twenty-fourth Missouri) meeting with a formidable abatis they did not get their colors on the works at the same moment. There was not, however, a difference of half a minute in the time of planting the colors by the different regiments. That part of Colonel Shaw's brigade which moved up on the right of the road encountered a bayou, which prevented their getting into the works as soon as the others. The sharp-

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*See p. 314.

shooters of these regiments, however, did excellent service in annoying the enemy's artillerists. The brigade commanders, Colonels Shaw and Lynch, handled their troops with skill and coolness. I deem it my duty to mention the conduct of Captain O'Donnell, of my staff, who rendered me most efficient and valuable aid in putting troops into position. He was always ready when his services were required, and was one of the first in the enemy's works. We captured 260 men, as well as a large amount of ordnance and ordnance stores, among them ten guns, two of them 9-inch, one 32-pounder rifled and banded; the others of smaller caliber.

I inclose herewith a list of killed and wounded;* also a list of ordnance and ordnance stores captured.†

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,

Brig. Gen., Comdg. First and Third Divs., 16th A. C.

Capt. J. HOUGH,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Red River Expedition.

HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,

Grand Ecore, La., April 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the position and movements of the troops of my command in the engagement at Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: I inclose herewith a diagram,‡ showing the position of my command at the commencement of the action. Colonel Shaw was detached in the morning with his brigade, and ordered to report to General Emory. The position of the troops in my line was as follows: Commencing with the right, Colonel McClure, with the Forty-seventh Illinois; on his left, the Ninth Indiana Battery; on the left of this was the One hundred and seventy-eighth New York, and in their front the Forty-ninth Illinois, both of Colonel Moore's brigade. On the left of the One hundred and seventy-eighth was the Thirty-third Missouri, of Colonel Hill's brigade; on the left of this the Third Indiana Battery, six guns. This was supported on the left by the Eighty-ninth Indiana, Colonel Murray commanding. On the left of the Eighty-ninth was a Vermont battery. To the left of this, and nearly at right angles to the main line and facing outward, was the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois. Beyond, and to the right of the One hundred and nineteenth (as they were faced), was the Fifty-eighth Illinois. In front of my right was the left of General Emory's division. In front of my line was an open field, giving an excellent opportunity for our artillery to do effective service. The enemy made his appearance on the opposite side of the field about 4 p. m., and advanced rapidly on my line. They charged as though confident of success, but were repulsed by our troops, who withstood the charge with great firmness, and drove them back with great slaughter. The enemy made a stand at a ditch, which was about three-fourths of the width of the field from my original position. They lost largely in killed and in prisoners here, and were, after a desperate resistance, dislodged and driven back into the woods. After following the enemy some distance into the timber, a piece of artillery was opened upon my line, the fire coming from a point some distance to

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 3 killed and 38 wounded.

† See p. 314.

‡ See p. 319.

my right and a little to my rear. In consequence of this I halted my right and swung my left around, with the right as a pivot, forming the troops nearly perpendicular to their former line. As I was swinging around the enemy rallied and drove my men back a short distance. I then reformed them, and again drove the enemy. It was now dark and I did not deem it prudent to advance any farther, as I was unacquainted with the ground. I, however, proceeded to place my troops in such a position as to be able to attack the enemy on the flank should he remain until morning. In this I was occupied until after midnight; soon after I received your order to move my command, at 3 a. m., toward Grand Ecore.

The troops in my command behaved gallantly. Captain Cockefair, Third Indiana Battery, did excellent service; Captain Brown's battery, Ninth Indiana, being masked by a battery and troops in its front, was unable to fire for some time after the action commenced; Colonel Lynch, commanding the First Brigade, Third Division, having become separated from the balance of the command early in the action, advanced some distance in a direction to the left of the one in which I moved, and encountered a body of the enemy which he drove a long distance, when, finding them on both his flanks, he retired, bringing off a number of prisoners. Colonel Moore and Colonel Hill moved forward their respective commands with great steadiness, and fought the enemy until dark. I refer you to the report of brigade commanders, which I herewith inclose for the particulars. The conduct of both officers and men was admirable, defeating as they did, in so short a time, the enemy, who were flushed with the victory of the previous day. The list of casualties has already been forwarded.*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. J. HOUGH,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Detach. 16th and 17th Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,

Moore's Plantation, May 4, 1864.

GENERAL: A negro just escaped from the rebels states that they are in large force in our front; says he heard their drums beating this morning, which shows conclusively that they have infantry. I tried to develop their forces yesterday, but did not succeed, and also attempted the same this morning, but failed. I do not deem it prudent to risk an engagement with a bayou in my rear. I have therefore taken a position north of the bayou, near Governor Moore's residence. Had I had cavalry, I could have ascertained the strength of the enemy without bringing on a general engagement. The negro from whom I have obtained the above information states that he heard the rebels in their conversation with one and another talk boastingly of having 30,000 men. This is undoubtedly an exaggeration, yet I think it evident that they are largely superior to the force under my command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT, *Chief of Staff.*

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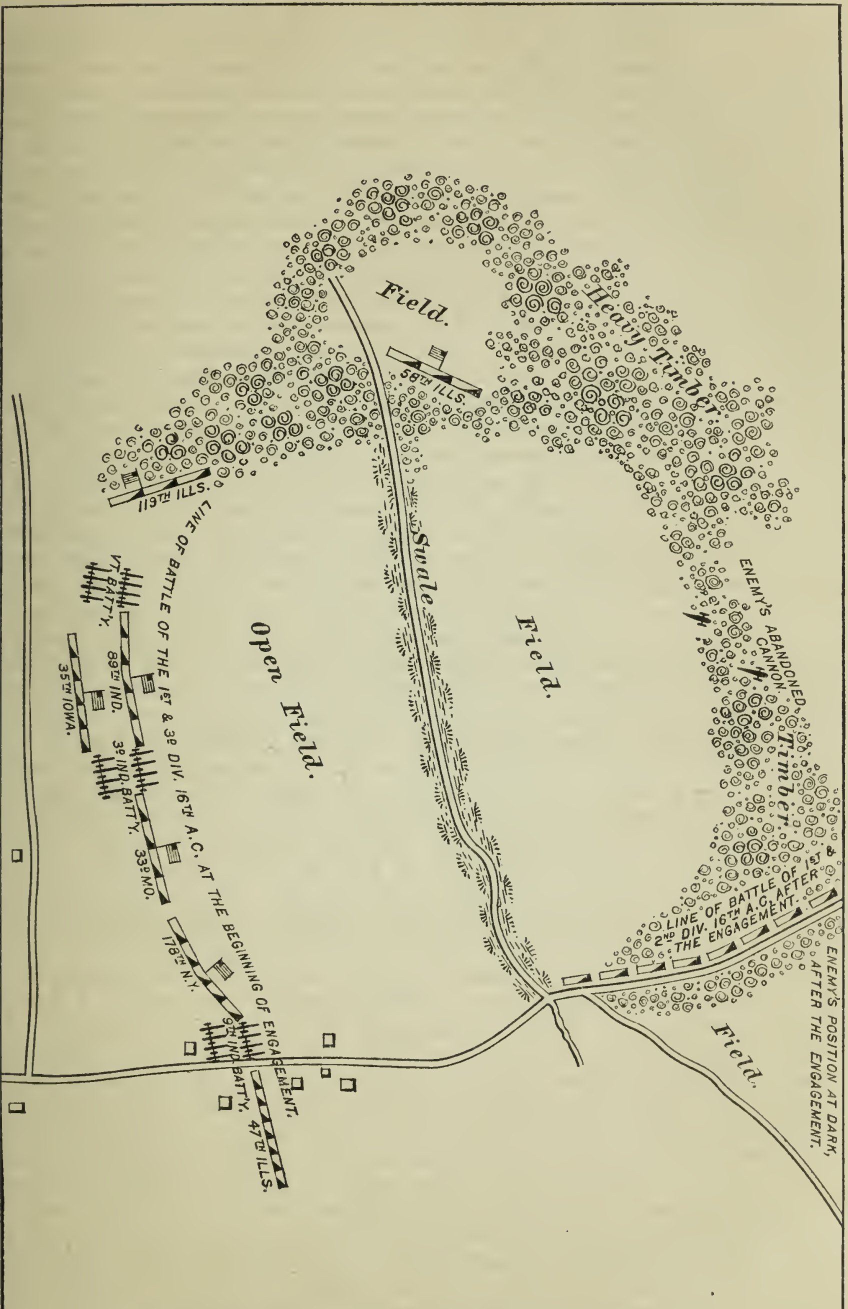
*Embodied in addenda to Smith's report, p. 313.



BATTLE FIELD AT PLEASANT HILL, LA.

HDQRS. FIRST AND THIRD DIVS., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
On Steamer Des Moines, Vicksburg, Miss., May 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding the detachment of Red River expedition, that, in obedience to the orders received from him to the effect that if the enemy should pursue me I should attack and drive them back, I moved across Yellow Bayou at about 11 o'clock of the 18th instant, with Colonel Hill's brigade, consisting only of two regiments, the Thirty-third Missouri and the Thirty-fifth Iowa, and Colonel Lynch's brigade, and Colonel Shaw's brigade of the Third Division. I skirmished with the enemy about 2 miles, when I came to a dense thicket, which I penetrated and found the enemy in large force on the opposite side of a field. They opened on my line with twelve pieces of rifled artillery. I had with me Lieutenant Tiemeyer's battery of rifled guns, with the Third Indiana Battery and four smooth-bore guns of the Ninth Indiana Battery. I put Lieutenant Tiemeyer's battery in position on the right of the line and the Ninth Indiana Battery near the left, having two regiments on the left of it for support. I had just got my line formed after passing through the thicket when the enemy moved upon us, coming in columns in mass on our left and in line of battle in our front. I immediately sent for two regiments of Colonel Shaw's brigade, which had been held in reserve, but before they arrived the cavalry on my left flank were driven back, the enemy following them and getting in rear of my left flank. I immediately ordered the Third Indiana Battery and the two regiments on the left of it to move in such a direction as brought them nearly at right angles with the balance of my line and facing the enemy, who were moving down on our flank. I also ordered the other portion of the line, which had driven the enemy in their front, to fall back so as to connect with the right of the troops, whose position I had changed. The troops on the left were now formed facing the woods. Just as they had got into position the two regiments of Colonel Shaw's brigade, which were held in reserve and which I had previously sent for, came up, and I put them into position on the left. I then ordered the battery to be doubled-shotted with canister. The enemy on our flank were soon driven back, and with great slaughter. I then (after resting the men a few minutes and giving them an opportunity to replenish their ammunition) ordered another advance. I found that the enemy had made an advance and had entered the thicket, through which the main portion of my line had to pass. We encountered them in the thicket, and a short but desperate struggle ensued, in which they were driven into and part way across the open field beyond, with great loss in killed and wounded and about 160 prisoners. My left being exposed, the cavalry having been again driven back, I ordered my troops back to reoccupy their original position, the enemy first being driven from our left. I left a line of skirmishers in front of the thicket. The enemy did not attempt to make another attack. I have been since informed by the chaplain of the Fifty-eighth Illinois, who was captured a few days previous and afterward released, that the enemy acknowledged a loss in that engagement of about 600 killed and wounded. This, together with the prisoners captured by us, would make their loss nearly three times as great as our own.

Too much praise cannot be given either to officers or men in meet-

ing and repelling two distinct charges of the enemy, in both of which their force was greatly superior to our own. The conduct of Colonel Hill deserves special mention. He was in the thickest of the fire; was himself wounded, and had his horse shot. Colonel Lynch, who had had permission to visit the boats at the Atchafalaya, some 4 miles distant, on hearing the artillery immediately repaired to the field of battle, and rushing in with his usual impetuosity, was almost immediately wounded. The command of his brigade then devolved upon Colonel Kinney, of the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois, who fought his brigade gallantly until his horse was wounded and fell upon him, injuring him so that he had to retire temporarily from the field. The command then devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Craven, Eighty-ninth Indiana, who sustained the well-earned reputation of the brigade. Colonel Shaw handled his men with skill and coolness and aided in repelling the charge of the enemy on the flank and in driving them back. I will also mention Lieutenant Tiemeyer, Company M, First Missouri Light Artillery, who did good execution, notwithstanding his battery was exposed to a galling fire from the enemy's batteries, who at times concentrated their whole artillery fire upon him. He deserves great praise for the manner in which he handled his guns. Captain Brown, of the Ninth Indiana Battery, although his guns were not able to reach the rifled guns of the enemy, poured a deadly fire into the masses of the enemy as they charged on the left.

To the officers of my staff, Captain Sample and Lieutenants Christensen, Meagher, and O'Reilly, who rendered efficient aid in conveying orders along the line, under the heaviest of the fire, my sincere thanks are due. The last two had their horses shot under them.

A list of the prisoners captured, also a list of the casualties, have already been forwarded. I herewith inclose the reports of the brigade commanders.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. 1st and 3d Divs., 16th Army Corps.

Capt. J. HOUGH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Detach. 16th and 17th Army Corps.

No. 32.

Report of Col. Lucius F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill, with itinerary of the brigade, March 1–May 24.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with circular instructions of this date, from headquarters First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to make the following report of the part borne by my command in the battle at Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: But one regiment of the Second Brigade (the Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry) was brought into action during the progress of the fight. That regiment was moved toward the front by order of General Mower, at about 3 p. m., and placed in position as a support to and

upon the right of the Third Indiana Battery, where it remained until the attack of the enemy was finally repulsed, and where it was afforded an opportunity to deliver several effective volleys into the ranks of the assaulting columns. As the enemy was driven from the field the Forty-seventh Illinois moved a few hundred yards to the front, and remained in position until after dark, when ordered by me to rejoin the brigade. The Fifth Minnesota Veteran Infantry was posted early in the afternoon as a support to a picket on a road communicating with the right of our line of battle, where it remained until after dark, not having been engaged. The Eighth Wisconsin Veteran Infantry was held in reserve, except four companies, which latter were posted as a picket to the rear, on the Grand Ecore road. Shortly after dark I was ordered by General Mower to move the Second Brigade to the front, where it was placed in position, and remained until the movement to the rear commenced. The casualties of my command are 7 wounded and 3 missing, a list of which has already been forwarded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. F. HUBBARD,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Division, 16th Army Corps.

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*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, March 1–May 24.**

March 1.—The brigade left Canton, Miss., and marched via Black River bridge to Vicksburg.

March 5.—Arrived at Vicksburg. Here the Eleventh Missouri Infantry received orders to report at Saint Louis, having re-enlisted as veterans, and the Second Iowa Battery was ordered to Memphis, Tenn.

March 9.—The remaining three regiments of the brigade embarked for an expedition to Red River.

March 10.—Left Vicksburg, passing down the Mississippi and up Red River into the Atchafalaya.

March 13.—Landed at Simsport, La., and marched to Fort De Russy; embarked and moved to Alexandria.

March 21.—Marched to Henderson's Hill.

March 23.—Returned to Alexandria.

March 26.—Marched via Bayou Rapides to Cotile Landing, La.

March 27.—Arrived and went into bivouac. Total distance marched, 356 miles.

April 1.—The brigade embarked on transports at Cotile Landing, La., and moved to Grand Ecore.

April 3.—Arrived at Grand Ecore and disembarked.

April 4.—Drove the enemy from the town of Campti.

April 7.—Left Grand Ecore; marched, 7th and 8th, to Pleasant Hill, La.

April 9.—Engaged in the battle of Pleasant Hill.

April 10 *and* 11.—Marched to Grand Ecore.

April 20.—Left Grand Ecore and marched via Natchitoches to Alexandria.

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*From returns for March, April, and May.

April 22 *and* 23.—Engaged the enemy on Cane River. Total distance, 250 miles.

May 2.—The brigade marched from Alexandria, La., along Bayou Rapides, 5 miles; thence to Governor Moore's plantation, on Bayou Roberts; arrived on the 3d.

May 4, 6, *and* 7.—Engaged the enemy in skirmishes.

May 14.—Marched along Red River via Marksville and Simsport, arriving at the mouth of Red River on the 21st, having engaged the enemy on the 14th on Red River, on the 16th at Marksville, or Belle Prairie, and on the 18th near Yellow Bayou.

May 22.—Embarked and moved up the Mississippi.

May 24.—Arrived at Vicksburg. Total distance traveled, 275 miles.

No. 33.

Report of Maj. John C. Becht, Fifth Minnesota Infantry.

HDQRS. FIFTH MINNESOTA VET. VOL. INFANTRY,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 25, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, as briefly as possible, the part taken by the Fifth Minnesota Veterans in the recent Red River expedition. This expedition has been the most severe one in which the regiment has ever been engaged. The fact that it failed in the accomplishment of its professed object and, in fact, suffered unaccountable disaster, made our exodus from the State of Louisiana, consuming forty days, all the more irksome. On the 10th of March we left Vicksburg on board of transports and landed at Simsport, on the Atchafalaya Bayou, on the 12th. Our brigade immediately initiated operations on the Red River by putting to rout General Scurry's command, which was encamped near our landing. The enemy withdrew to Fort Scurry, 3 miles distant, and not fancying the aspect of affairs as we approached in line of battle with fixed bayonets, he forsook his works and beat a hasty retreat. We pursued him for 4 miles and succeeded in capturing his rear guard and 4 loaded wagons, and were then recalled to our boats. At 9 o'clock the same evening General Smith's whole command took up the line of march for Fort De Russy, arriving there at 4 p. m. the next day, and by dusk had the fort and garrison in our possession. This fort was built with the best of engineering skill, and was well calculated for a small force to successfully resist a much superior besieging one. Our brigade during the day was the rear guard of the Sixteenth Army Corps, and came up only in time to form in the second line of battle and witness the glorious sight of our boys scaling the parapets, which were fully 20 feet high from the bottom of the ditch.

On the 15th, we re-embarked on the transports, which had followed us up the river, and took peaceable possession of Alexandria on the 16th. On the 21st, our division, accompanied by a small force of General Banks' cavalry, which had just arrived, made a reconnaissance to Henderson's Hill, 22 miles from Alexandria on the Shreveport road. We made a forced march and found the enemy in a strong position. After a short demonstration in front we commenced a flank movement, crossed a bayou, and entered a pine for-

est. Amid the darkness and in a drenching rain-storm, we waded through mud and water, over ridges and across low bottoms, till we reached the enemy's rear. We relieved his pickets, substituted our own, and took the camp by surprise. The enemy were looking for their own re-enforcements, which they were hourly expecting. We captured 1 four-gun battery with caissons and horses, including 80 prisoners, the darkness covering the escape of the others.

On the 26th and 27th, we marched to Cotile Landing, which is above the Red River rapids, and 28 miles from Alexandria, and on the 2d of April again embarked and arrived at Grand Ecore on the 3d. In the mean time, General Banks had arrived at Alexandria and moved on in advance of us to Natchitoches. We remained in Grand Ecore four or five days, during which time we made several reconnaissances on the east side of the river, and encountered the enemy in several skirmishes. On the 4th, the regiment, with the Thirty-fifth Iowa, Colonel Hubbard commanding, was sent out on the double-quick to Campti, 5 miles distant, to the relief of our cavalry, which was being roughly handled. We found the enemy across a small bayou, sheltered in the large timber, and successfully resisting the persistent efforts of the cavalry to dislodge him. I immediately deployed my regiment on the right and left of the road, and moved rapidly forward toward and across the bayou. The boys advanced with cheers and well-directed fire, which the rebels were not able or disposed to withstand. They withdrew, leaving behind their killed and wounded, who fell into our hands. On the 7th, with cheerful spirits, we took up the line of march for Shreveport, never once considering the possibility of a failure to accomplish our purpose. General Banks, with the cavalry under General Lee, the Nineteenth, and detachment of Thirteenth Army Corps, preceded us one day. On the 8th, late in the evening, we reached Pleasant Hill, and from stragglers first heard of that day's disaster and rout to our advance, which reports were afterward too fully confirmed. On the 9th, the enemy advanced to the attack, flushed with victory and stengthened with re-enforcements, and fought with reckless desperation. On that day it devolved upon the detachments of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, forming General Smith's command of veteran troops, to arrest and turn back the tide of battle and disaster. The position of the Fifth during the engagement was on the extreme right of the Sixteenth Army Corps. During the night a new line of battle was formed, 1½ miles in advance of our first position, the Fifth being placed near the center and in the first line. As we rested on our arms, listening to the cries and groans of the wounded, who were lying thickly around and among us, each one felt that morning would witness the opening of, if possible, a still fiercer struggle than that of the previous day. To our great surprise, at 3 o'clock in the morning, we were quietly withdrawn from the battle-field and marched back to Grand Ecore without molestation.

On the 20th, the retrograde movement was resumed, General Smith being assigned to the rear, and to the general protection of General Banks' 12 miles of wagons. We were warmly attacked on leaving there, and on each of the three days consumed in reaching Alexandria, the regiment participating on the 22d and 23d. On the 2d of May the Sixteenth Army Corps, under command of General Mower, was sent out 8 miles toward Cloutierville to hold the enemy back, and to get and retain possession of the large amount of forage in that section. Here we remained eight days, engaged in a continual

skirmish, culminating at times in a general engagement. During the eight days, as well as during the whole expedition, the Fifth was frequently selected by Colonel Hubbard, at the request of the commanding general of the division, and sent forward to act as skirmishers and sharpshooters. General Mower formerly commanded our brigade, and he accredits to the Fifth Minnesota great efficiency in this kind of duty. On the 14th, we again fell in rear of General Banks and his wagon train, followed the windings of the Red River, and camped near Fort De Russy on the night of the 15th. On the 16th occurred the battle of Marksville, or Belle Prairie. The field was a splendid one for a fair and equal contest, a smooth, clear prairie, slightly descending to the south, 3 or 4 miles in extent, and surrounded by heavy timber. We were turned out before daybreak and taken into the fight without our usual coffee and hard-tack. As we marched through Marksville about sunrise we discovered the Nineteenth Army Corps already initiating operations, which it afterward devolved upon us to finish. The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps were formed in column of regiments, and moved across the prairie to the right, and some distance from the Nineteenth Army Corps, the Fifth Minnesota in advance. It was a splendid sight; our whole force and every movement could be clearly and distinctly seen. On the left was the Nineteenth Army Corps, advancing in line of battle with a line of skirmishers in front, engaging and slowly forcing back those of the enemy. To the rear of the Nineteenth was the Thirteenth, also advancing in line of battle. In the rear of and following us was a long column of regiments, the numerous banners glistening in the clear morning sunlight, and seeming to wave defiance to the foe. Our movements were soon changed from that in column to that en echelon and then into line of battle, all the regiments forming on the right of brigade. The enemy in front of us held a position in the edge of the timber, and only a portion of his line could at first be seen. He very soon disclosed the positions of four excellent batteries of heavy guns, which were particularly devoted to us. In the mean time the Nineteenth Army Corps had halted, and the remainder of the work was left for General Smith's command. The fight lasted about four hours, and during the closing scene it required the extra exertions of the enemy to save his batteries from our grasp. The long wagon train heretofore referred to, and especial instructions on this occasion as on many others, prevented pursuit.

The enemy followed us closely the next day, and on the 18th, on Bayou De Glaize, ensued the last battle of the series conducted by General Mower, and participated in by the troops of the Sixteenth Army Corps alone. The Fifth Minnesota was here used as skirmishers. The fight commenced about 10 a. m., and continued for six hours. We drove the enemy back on this as on every other occasion, with a loss to him of upward of 500 men, and we would gladly have pursued and punished him for his insolence.

On the 20th, we once more looked upon the waters of the noble Mississippi. We hailed the sight with cheers. The waters of the Mississippi appeared as clear as crystal and [were] relished like the fountain waters of Minnesota, so great was the contrast with the muddy waters of the dried up Red River and its bayous. We arrived at Vicksburg on transports on the 24th.

Great credit is due to Surgeon Kennedy, one of the leading operating surgeons of the command, and his assistant, Dr. Leonard,

for their exertions in behalf of the wounded. I can also heartily commend the action of every officer and private of the regiment in the several battles and skirmishes of this expedition. I think I am safe in assuring you that the Fifth lost none of its prestige and none of its reputation as a fighting regiment. Colonel Hubbard has been in command of the brigade since leaving Vicksburg. I cheerfully acknowledge that any credit which the regiment or the brigade has gained in the expedition is in a great measure due to the coolness, the courage, the watchful attention to duty, and the personal example of daring of himself and staff. Colonel Hubbard possesses the entire confidence of his command. Every officer and soldier knows and feels that his inspiration in battle is not due to whisky, and they follow him without fear or mistrust.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the regiment has been providentially spared from serious loss; 15 men wounded, and most of them not seriously, and 3 men prisoners, embraces the entire list of casualties.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BECHT,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Col. OSCAR MALMROS,
Adjutant-General of Minnesota, Saint Paul.

No. 34.

Reports of Col. Sylvester G. Hill, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of affair at Henderson's Hill and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou, with itinerary of the brigade, March 4–May 24.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., March 25, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of this command for March 21 and 22, 1864: In obedience to orders from headquarters First and Third Divisions, Sixteenth Army Corps, this brigade, consisting of Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry and the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiments, moved from their camp in Alexandria, La., at 6.30 a. m., March 21, and marched in the advance of the division in the following order: First, the Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry; second, the Ninth Indiana Battery; third, the Thirty-third Regiment Missouri Volunteer Infantry. The brigade was halted at 1 p. m. about 22 miles from this place, where the enemy had opened fire with artillery on the cavalry in our advance with some effect. It being apparent that the enemy had chosen a very strong position in our front, across Bayou Rapides, on a high hill, this brigade was ordered to the front to support the battery then in position. Shortly after the brigade was ordered across Bayou Rapides to the right of the enemy's position, and after a tedious march of about 8 miles, through marshes and a dense pine forest, in a hard rain and cold wind, we halted. The men were much fatigued and thoroughly wet, suffering from cold and a severe hail-storm; some were compelled from exhaustion to leave the ranks. The enemy being seen in the advance, the Thirty-third Regiment Missouri Volunteers was ordered to support a section of Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, and Company C,

Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Volunteers, was deployed and sent forward as skirmishers. After a halt of about 2 hours we discovered that the camp of the enemy was some distance to our right.

It being now dark the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers, followed by the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers, was ordered forward toward the position of the enemy, and at about 10.30 p. m. arrived at the enemy's outer pickets. Eight picket-posts were now in succession relieved of their guards, and three couriers, one guidon colors, and an ambulance, with horses, &c., captured, and the prisoners sent to the rear of the first regiment, without the firing of a gun or causing any alarm whatever. At about midnight we arrived at the main camp of the rebels. The Thirty-fifth Iowa quickly surrounded a number of the enemy in a house, and mounted their men on the horses hitched to a section of the enemy's battery and caissons, before our presence was at all discovered by them; it was a complete surprise. There was every indication that the camp was in readiness for an attack; horses were hitched, guns were in position, two of them were charged with canister, but so silent was our approach and so rapid our movements in their camp, that they did not use their artillery, and fired but a few rifle shots before the capture was complete. After the capture of the first section of artillery and a lot of officers and men in a large house, as also a large lot of cavalry horses equipped, both regiments were ordered with bayonets fixed to charge through the camp, and succeeded in capturing another section of artillery, with caissons and horses complete, and also a number of rebels mounted. Passing out of the enemy's main camp to the bayou, we found the bridge over Bayou Rapides destroyed by fire. We then moved to our left, along the bayou, the Thirty-third Regiment Missouri Volunteers in the advance, with two companies out as skirmishers. Passing through an open field and into an old cavalry camp, about 40 more prisoners and horses were taken. Finding here the frame-work of a partially destroyed bridge, we in half an hour repaired it and crossed over, and marched 2½ miles, through deep mud and water, to near the place where we crossed the bayou at 1 p. m., and bivouacked for the few remaining hours of the night at 3 a. m., having marched about 35 miles in 22½ hours.

On the morning of the 22d, the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers was ordered forward to support the Ninth Indiana Battery, while the captured property was secured, and the enemy's camp at Henderson's Hill entirely destroyed. At 12 m. we took up our line of march toward Alexandria, the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers having in charge the prisoners of war and the captured battery. Arrived within 8 miles of Alexandria and camped for the night. Next morning (23d) marched at 6 a. m., and arrived in Alexandria at 1 p. m.

Casualties in the brigade, 1 man wounded. Captured by the brigade:

Prisoners of war:	
Officers, 16; men, 206	222
Artillery:	
Brass 6-pounders	2
12-pounder howitzers	2
Caissons, with harness, &c	4
Horses (part equipped), about	280
Small-arms and sabers, about	240
Ambulance (with surgical instruments)	1
Guidon colors	1

Much of the credit of this successful exploit is due to Lieut. Col. W. B. Keeler, commanding the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers, and to Lieut. Col. W. H. Heath, commanding Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers, for their promptness in obeying orders, and their activity in bringing up their regiments promptly and in good order, notwithstanding the men were very much fatigued; also to Lieut. H. Hoover, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieut. O. O. England, acting assistant inspector-general of this brigade, for their efficiency and promptness in dispatching orders and capturing prisoners.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. G. HILL,
Colonel Thirty-fifth Iowa Vols., Comdg. Brig.

Capt. J. B. Sample,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Hdqrs. Third Brig., First Div., 16th Army Corps,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Third Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in the action at Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: At 3 p. m. this brigade, consisting of the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers and the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers (less three companies from each regiment detailed on picket duty in the rear), was ordered forward to take position in line of battle, the enemy in force at that time menacing our front lines, and ordered to take position on the left center, as reserves, between the Third Indiana Battery and the First Vermont Battery, and in the rear of the Eighty-ninth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, then formed in line of battle on Pleasant Hill, in front of the woods, remaining in this position until 4.30 p. m. I received orders to form one regiment on the right of the Third Indiana Battery, to support the battery. The Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers was at once placed in this position, while the brigade was under a severe fire from the enemy, who had succeeded in breaking the first line of battle in front and were rapidly advancing. The firing becoming still more severe, the men were ordered to lie down to prevent unnecessary loss of life. The enemy continued to press the retreating brigades of the first line so closely as to prevent their reforming their lines. At this juncture the brigade was ordered to rise up and advance on the enemy, who had by this time broken our second line of battle. Here Lieut. Col. William H. Heath, commanding the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers, was severely wounded in the head while gallantly leading his command, and was compelled to leave the field, leaving Maj. George W. Van Beek in command. The brigade continued to advance, firing incessant and destructive volleys into the ranks of the enemy, who could no longer withstand the strong fire poured into them from our troops, began to waver, and were immediately charged very determinedly and compelled to fall back in great disorder, then followed closely by our troops. The Thirty-fifth Iowa soon encountered a large force of the enemy in a ravine thickly covered with bushes, and suffered severely from their fire, but they at once gallantly charged the enemy, killing and wounding many and capturing about 60 prisoners. The Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers were exposed to the fire of a four-gun battery

placed in the edge of the woods, the shots, however, mostly passing over them. They promptly charged on the battery, receiving a volley from those supporting the battery, who broke and fled in confusion after discharging their pieces, leaving the battery in our possession. The regiments now entered the woods, following the retreating enemy, who under cover closely contested our advance. The regiments, in pursuing the scattered forces of the enemy, became separated, but were soon brought together again and continued to follow the fleeing, scattered forces of the defeated rebels through the thick woods until dark; night prevented further operations. At 7 p. m. the brigade was moved back on the open part of the battle-field and bivouacked for the night.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to the officers and men of the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers, and the officers and men of the Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers, for their coolness under a severe fire, their prompt obedience of orders, and good, soldier-like conduct during this severe contest; their bravery deserved victory. The following is a recapitulation of casualties, a list of which has already been furnished to you: Killed, 8; wounded, 68; missing, 2; total, 78. Special favorable mention is also due to Lieut. Henry Hoover, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. O. O. England, acting assistant inspector-general, and Lieut. R. M. Reed, aide-de-camp, of this command, for their gallant conduct when exposed to the combined fires of the enemy's musketry and artillery, their prompt obedience of all orders; they have performed their part well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. G. HILL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 28, 1864.

Official report of the part taken by the Third Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in the battle of Bayou De Glaize, La., May 18, 1864: This brigade, consisting of the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteers, Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteers, and detachments of the Eleventh Missouri and Eighth and Twelfth Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry, was ordered by Brigadier-General Mower to move across Bayou Avoyelles, near Bayou De Glaize, at 11 a. m., where the enemy was engaging our skirmishers. At our approach they fell back before our skirmishers, who were exposed to a severe fire on their right flank from across Bayou De Glaize. Here one of the bravest and most efficient officers, Capt. George C. Burmeister, Thirty-fifth Iowa, was severely wounded (shot through the breast) while commanding his company as skirmishers. After marching about 2 miles, we found the enemy in force with quite a number of pieces of artillery. I sent two companies to the front as skirmishers. After a heavy artillery fire from both sides, lasting about one hour, we were ordered forward. With much difficulty we moved by right of companies to the front, through a dense briar thicket, about one-half mile wide, all the time exposed to a severe fire from the enemy's artillery. In the edge of this thicket we encountered the forces of the enemy. They could not long stand the fire from our ranks, and fell

back under cover of their batteries. By order of Brigadier-General Mower, we now moved back to prevent a threatened flank movement on our left, carrying with us our dead and wounded. About three-fourths of a mile back we formed a new line and advanced our skirmishers, and at 4 p. m. were again ordered to move forward, which was promptly done amidst cheers along our entire line. We again found the enemy posted near the edge of the thicket, this time greatly outnumbering us. We charged them promptly, pouring volley after volley, deliberately aimed, into their works as we advanced. They fled before us, leaving many of their number dead and wounded on the field. We captured in both charges about 160 prisoners. In this last charge I was wounded in the ankle, and horse shot; and my son, Fred. Hill, acting orderly, was shot through the head and killed, and his horse also shot. We were now exposed, in plain sight and at short range, to the enemy's artillery. We soon fell back under cover of the thicket, carrying with us our dead and wounded. At 6 p. m. we were ordered to the rear as reserves, Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler, Thirty-fifth Iowa, now commanding the brigade. At 7 p. m. we were moved to a position in the front line, on the left, in the woods, and at 9 p. m. we were ordered back on account of the fatigue of our men across Bayou Avoyelles.

Our loss was ———, a list of which has already been furnished.*

The wounds were generally very severe, being at very close range. Many of the wounded have since died. I must again express my admiration of the bravery and noble conduct of the officers and men whom I had the honor to command in this engagement. More could not be expected of any.

S. G. HILL,
Colonel Thirty-fifth Iowa, Commanding Brigade.

[Capt. JAMES B. SAMPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

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Itinerary of the Third Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, March 4–May 24.†

March 4.—Left camp at Black River with the division; marched 6 miles and encamped for the night.

March 5.—Marched to Vicksburg and encamped until the 8th.

March 8.—Assigned to Red River expedition, under Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith. This division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, embarked at Vicksburg.

March 9.—Left Vicksburg at 6 a. m.

March 10 *and* 11.—At mouth of Red River.

March 13.—Disembarked at Simsport, Atchafalaya Bayou, La.

March 13 *and* 14.—Marched to Fort De Russy, on Red River, about 40 miles. After an engagement, lasting one and a half hours, Fort De Russy was surrendered.

March 15.—Embarked at Fort De Russy.

March 16.—Landed at Alexandria, La., and went into camp.

March 21.—Marched 35 miles and captured camp at Henderson's Hill, with 300 rebels, 4 pieces of artillery, and 4 caissons, 250 horses, a lot of small-arms, &c., at midnight, without losing a man.

* Nominal list shows 5 men killed, 2 officers and 33 men wounded, and 1 man missing.

†From returns for March, April, and May.

March 23.—Returned to Alexandria.

March 26.—Marched 18 miles west.

March 27.—Arrived at Cotile Landing, La., on Red River.

April 4.—Left Cotile Landing, La., with the Red River expedition on transports, under command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith.

April 5.—Arrived at Grand Ecore, La.; the enemy fled after some skirmishing.

April 7.—Left Grand Ecore in rear of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Army Corps; encamped 15 miles southwest.

April 8.—At 7 a. m. moved slowly, being hindered by a long wagon train in our front. In the afternoon heard heavy firing in our front; encamped at 9 p. m. near Pleasant Hill.

April 9.—Ordered out at 3 a. m., the scattering forces of the Thirteenth Army Corps and heavy train of wagons, artillery, &c., hurrying past us to the rear. At 3 p. m. this brigade was ordered forward into line with General A. J. Smith's command on Pleasant Hill, to check the advancing enemy. At 5 p. m. the enemy engaged our whole line and charged us at all points. After a severe engagement of about two hours the enemy were entirely driven from the field, with severe loss. For losses see list* of casualties. Bivouacked on the field for the night.

April 10.—At 2 a. m. received orders to move at once toward Grand Ecore, to cover the retreat of General Banks' army and train, the defeated rebels fleeing in the opposite direction.

April 11.—Arrived at Grand Ecore; in camp until the 20th.

April 20.—Moved to Natchitoches.

April 21.—Moved at 6 p. m., in rear of the Thirteenth Army Corps, along Cane River toward Alexandria.

April 22.—Heavy skirmishing in rear; formed in line of battle, but enemy did not attack.

April 23.—At 3 a. m. arrived at Cloutierville. At 11 a. m. formed, and after a short engagement the enemy retreated; skirmishing continued all day.

April 24.—At 4 a. m. the enemy opened on our camp with artillery; heavy engagement ensued, lasting about one and a half hours, when the enemy fell back from the field. At 9 a. m. moved forward. At night encamped at Cotile Landing.

April 25.—Moved toward Alexandria at 10 a. m.; heavy skirmishing at Henderson's Hill; formed in line at 12 m.; moved forward at 5 p. m.; encamped for the night.

April 26.—Moved at 7 a. m.; skirmishing in rear; formed in ambush near Bayou Rapides bridge; the rear guard of cavalry passed, but the enemy discovered us too soon for the success of our plan; moved forward at 2 p. m.; went into camp at Alexandria in the evening.

April 28.—At 12 m. formed in line of battle at Alexandria. Remained in line under arms until 9 a. m. of the 29th; no enemy came; went into camp again.

May 2.—Left camp at Alexandria, La.; marched 4 miles; found the enemy; heavy skirmishing until dark.

May 3.—Marched 10 miles to Opelousas road; encamped on rebel Governor Moore's plantation; skirmished daily with the enemy's cavalry until the 7th.

May 7.—Drove the enemy about 6 miles across Bayou Lamourie,

* See p. 313.

with considerable loss on both sides. At night moved back to Governor Moore's plantation, where we remained until the 14th.

May 14.—Marched 4 miles to Red River; joined the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Army Corps; moved along right bank of the river to Marksville.

May 16.—Found the enemy in force at Marksville. After a heavy artillery engagement our infantry skirmishers drove him from his position. We then moved on to Bayou De Glaize.

May 17.—This brigade was rear guard to the entire army; heavy skirmishing all day.

May 18.—Crossed Bayou Avoyelles. At 11 a. m. the enemy appeared in force and we were ordered to recross the bayou and give him battle, which we did, driving him back with heavy loss on both sides. We captured a number of prisoners.

May 20.—Crossed Bayou Atchafalaya on a bridge made of twenty steam-boats.

May 21.—Marched to Red River Landing, on the Mississippi River.

May 22.—Embarked on boats.

May 24.—Arrived at Vicksburg, where we are now temporarily encamped.

No. 35.

Reports of Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, of affair at Henderson's Hill and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

Hdqrs. Thirty-fifth Regt. Iowa Infantry Vols.,
Alexandria, La., March 24, 1864.

Sir: In obedience to orders I have the honor to herewith transmit the operations and list of casualties incident to the Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers from the 21st to the 23d of March, 1864, inclusive. In obedience to orders, on the 21st the regiment was ready to move at 5.30 a. m., left in front, and in advance of the division, with two days' rations; soon after we took up our line of march and arrived within 3 miles of Henderson's Hill, the enemy shelling the advance. After a few moments' rest the brigade was ordered forward, crossed Bayou Rapides, took a by-road, and after a long, tedious march in the rain and hail, through swamp and a dense pine forest, we arrived in the rear of Henderson's Hill, where the enemy was camped, capturing the outposts and pickets, and arriving in the main camp about 12 m., surprising the enemy and capturing 4 pieces of artillery (2 were loaded with canister), 4 caissons filled with fixed ammunition, 32 horses attached to the artillery, ready for immediate action; also 222 prisoners, including 16 officers, 126 horses equipped, 1 guidon, an ambulance with some surgical instruments and medicines, which the division surgeon took charge of, 92 stand of small-arms, many of which, through the darkness of the night and for the want of transportation, were either broken up or thrown into the bayou, and in consequence thereof was enabled to bring off only 12 stand of small-arms.

Casualties, 1 man slightly wounded in the mouth by a pistol-shot; he was carrying the colors at the time.

At about 2 a. m. on the 22d marched 3 miles from Henderson's Hill, recrossed the bayou, and camped till morning. On the 22d, marched within 8 miles of Alexandria, camped till morning, and on the 23d marched to Alexandria, La., our present camp.

Most respectfully, yours,

WM. B. KEELER,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirty-fifth Regt. Iowa Infantry Vols.

Lieut. HENRY HOOVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRTY-FIFTH REGIMENT IOWA VOL. INFY.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations and movements of the Thirty-fifth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry at Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th day of April, 1864:

In obedience to your orders the regiment was formed in line of battle in rear of Thirty-third Regiment Missouri Volunteer Infantry at about 5 p. m. of the 9th instant, which position we occupied until ordered forward at about 5.15 o'clock; advanced a short distance in line of battle, when I received orders to form the regiment on the right of the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, which movement was almost immediately countermanded by a staff officer from Major-General Banks, who directed me to change my course by the left oblique, which I did, passing to the left of the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry into a deserted camp in good order, where we were met by a terrific volley from the advance column of the enemy, who were strongly posted in a ravine, filled with an undergrowth of cane, which killed and wounded many of my men and checked our advance for a moment, but for a moment only; the men instantly rallied, and with one prolonged cheer that arose above the din of battle they charged forward in the most gallant style, driving the enemy before them in confusion from the field into the timber, killing, wounding, and capturing many of them. After driving them about 200 yards, we halted, reformed, and moved forward again nearly one-fourth of a mile through the timber, passing on our way two cannon that the enemy had abandoned. We then halted in the road, when I was ordered by General Mower to advance the left of the regiment to a position oblique with the road, and then to move forward, which I did. Advancing a few paces I received the fire of an advancing column of the enemy; my brave men stood it with unflinching courage, and with cheers they poured into them a tremendous volley, scattering and driving them in all directions. This ended the battle for the day, and we were victorious. It was now dark, and in obedience to your orders I moved the regiment out of the timber by the right flank and formed on the left of Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, when, after issuing ammunition, we bivouacked for the night. Too much praise cannot be given to both officers and men for their brave, courageous, and noble conduct in the execution of all orders, and the coolness and discipline displayed by them on the field of battle. All did well, and I thank them. Our loss was as follows: Commissioned officers wounded, 3; killed, 1; enlisted men wounded, 54; killed, 5; missing, 1; total loss in regiment, 64 officers and men.

Hoping, colonel, in your report my regiment will be favorably mentioned for their gallantry and courage, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. B. KEELER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Thirty-fifth Iowa Infy. Regt.

Col. S. G. HILL,
Commanding Third Brigade.

No. 36.

Reports of Lieut. Col. William H. Heath, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, of affair at Henderson's Hill.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Alexandria, La., March 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders from brigade headquarters, this regiment moved with other troops of the First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, from Alexandria, La., at 6.30 a. m., on Monday, March 21, 1864, arriving in front of the enemy's position at Henderson's Hill, La., at about 12 m. of the same day. After a short rest we crossed, with other troops of the command, to the lower side of Bayou Rapides, and after a march of about 5 miles through marshy lands and pine forests, were halted and ordered to support a section of Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery. We moved in rear of that section for about 1 mile, when a halt was ordered for rest. The men had suffered very severely from hard marching and bad roads. The rain had fallen from 1 to 6 p. m., making the ground very soft and slippery, and compelling some of them from sheer exhaustion to leave the ranks. In addition to this, it had hailed severely, and was very cold. After quite a long halt, it being ascertained that we were in the rear of the enemy's camp at Henderson's Hill, and between him and the camp of the rebel General Walker, arrangements were made for an immediate attack. The Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, being in advance, was ordered to move on the former camp, and the Second Brigade having come up I was ordered to leave the artillery with them, and move immediately forward to support the Thirty-fifth Iowa, which I did at once, moving rapidly up. The enemy's pickets were relieved by the advance and placed under guard, a section of his battery, with caissons and horses, captured, and the center of his camp gained without raising any alarm or meeting any opposition, the enemy mistaking us for re-enforcements which had been requested from General Walker. Moving rapidly now, with fixed bayonets, through his camp, we succeeded, without resistance, except a few pistol-shots, in capturing a gun and limber and two caissons, all with horses complete, besides a number of prisoners, cavalry horses and equipments, and a few small-arms. The Thirty-fifth Iowa being already burdened with prisoners, we were ordered to turn over all our captures to them, and move to the front, which was done at once, and we passed out of the enemy's main camp to the Bayou Rapides. Finding the bridge over this bayou in our front destroyed by fire, we moved to our left along the bayou, under orders of the brigade commander, throwing out Companies D and H as skirmishers. Passing through an open field, our skirmishers picked

up a few prisoners, and crossing a ravine came upon a deserted camp of the enemy's cavalry, a few stragglers of whom we captured, with a number of horses and equipments. Finding the frame-work of a partially destroyed bridge at this point, we in half an hour repaired it, and the enemy's camp being broken up, we were ordered to cross, and moved back toward Alexandria in a driving rain, 2½ miles, where we bivouacked for the night at 2 a. m., March 22. At daylight we moved back once more toward Jones' Point to support the Ninth Indiana Battery, which was ordered to cover our forces while the captured property was being removed from the enemy's camp. At 12 m. the same day we moved with the main column back toward Alexandria, where we arrived at 11 a. m. this day.

No casualties occurred in this regiment during the affair.

I am, sir, yours, very truly,

WM. H. HEATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Thirty-third Missouri Vols.

Lieut. H. HOOVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Alexandria, La., March 24, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with orders of the brigade commander, I have the honor to make the following report of the number of arms and horses captured by my command on the night of the 21st instant, viz: Number of horses and mules, about 130. Most of these were taken from the yard where my men had picketed them while repairing the bridge over Bayou Rapides, by the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry; remainder turned in to post quartermaster. Number of arms captured not definitely known, as they were left in camp to be transported by the ordnance officer, and no account taken of them. From the best information I can gather, however, I judge the number to be about 150 stand of small-arms, besides a small number of very indifferent cavalry sabers. From the rapid manner in which we were moved through the enemy's camp, and the orders we had to turn over our captures at once, it is impossible to give an accurate report of numbers.

I am, sir, very truly, yours,

WM. H. HEATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Thirty-third Missouri Vols.

Lieut. H. HOOVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 37.

Reports of Maj. George W. Van Beek, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, of engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI INFANTRY VOLS.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

COLONEL: In pursuance of orders received, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry Volunteers in the action of the 9th instant at Pleasant

Hill, La. : At 3 p. m., my regiment, then under command of Lieut. Col. William H. Heath, received orders to move forward from the position we then occupied, viz, 1 mile in rear of Pleasant Hill, and take position at the right of the Third Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, and immediately in rear of the Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry Volunteers, which had formed in line of battle upon the summit of Pleasant Hill and in front of the woods. The regiment remained in this position until about 5 o clock, when Lieutenant-Colonel Heath was ordered to move to the right a short distance to support the Third Indiana Battery. This movement was accomplished under a severe fire from the enemy, who had succeeded in breaking our first line of battle in front and were pressing vigorously forward. The fire of the enemy becoming extremely severe, Lieutenant-Colonel Heath ordered the men to lie down to prevent an unnecessary loss of life. The enemy, now greatly encouraged by their success, continued advancing with renewed energy upon the retreating brigades, effectually preventing their reforming and at the same time breaking our second line. At this juncture my regiment was ordered to rise and charge the enemy. While gallantly leading the regiment in this charge Lieutenant-Colonel Heath was severely wounded in the head and forced to leave the field, leaving myself in command. I continued advancing with my regiment until the fire of the enemy compelled me to halt and cause my men to lie down. In this position I continued to pour an incessant and destructive fire into the ranks of the enemy, without material loss to my command. The enemy, being unable to withstand the effective and unerring fire now showered upon them by our troops, wavered. Perceiving their lines wavering I again ordered a charge, which succeeded in breaking their lines, throwing them into confusion and compelling them to fall back to the woods with considerable loss. At this juncture a battery of four guns opened upon me with canister, which, fortunately for my command, passed almost entirely over them. Well knowing that it would be impossible for me to withstand a successful fire from this battery, I pushed forward with renewed speed and charged the battery, receiving a severe volley of musketry from their support, which I was informed by a wounded rebel officer taken by my command consisted of the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Missouri Regiments, under command of General Parsons, who was killed at this place by a ball in the left temple.* After discharging their pieces the enemy fled, panic-stricken, leaving numbers of their dead and wounded and the battery in my possession. I sustained my entire loss at this battery. While reforming my regiment preparatory to charging again, Brigadier-General Mower rode to the front, and pointing with his sword to the battery we had just taken, cheered the regiment. The men thus encouraged charged forward and entered the woods with an unbroken line, steadily advancing upon the enemy, who still continued obstinately contesting every inch of ground, until finding themselves irretrievably lost, fled, a panic-stricken mob, leaving horses, guns, equipments, and everything that impeded their progress upon the field. It now becoming too dark to pursue the flying enemy, I received orders to reform at the edge of the woods and bivouac for the night upon the field.

Too much praise cannot be given to the officers and men of the regiment for their coolness and energy displayed while under the

*A mistake. General Parsons survived the war.

enemy's fire. The following is a list of the casualties in the regiment.* The smallness of the number is attributable to the fact that my men received the heaviest fire of the enemy lying down. The prisoners taken by the regiment were sent to the rear in charge of stragglers. No account was taken of them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. VAN BEEK,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Col. S. G. HILL,
Commanding Brigade.

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HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI INFANTRY VOLS.,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 29, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance of orders received, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry Volunteers in the battle of the 18th instant at Bayou De Glaize: At about 9 a. m. I received orders to move from the position I then occupied, viz, in rear of the levee on Avoyelles Bayou, and take a position in the center of the field, in front of Fort Carroll and on the left of Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery. I remained in this position about half an hour, when it was ascertained that the enemy were advancing in force with a number of pieces of artillery, and I was again ordered to move forward and take position on the right of the Third Brigade and in the edge of the woods. At this juncture I was ordered to send forward four companies as skirmishers. I accordingly sent Companies C, D, E, and G, with orders for E and G to advance and ascertain the position of the enemy and C and D to deploy to the right along the bayou, to prevent the enemy's sharpshooters from getting a flank fire upon us. The enemy on meeting our skirmishers in front of our line threw a heavy force against them, compelling them to fall back. At this time I received orders to charge the enemy, who were now pouring a heavy and destructive fire of musketry and artillery upon us, which I did successfully, driving the enemy entirely out of the timber and compelling them to fall back upon their reserves, which were stationed midway of an open field and in rear of a sugar-mill and buildings of the plantation. Upon arriving at the field I received orders to fall back, under cover of the timber, and reform. This being accomplished, I was ordered to fall back to my first position in rear and on the edge of the above-mentioned timber. All this was accomplished under a heavy fire of the enemy's artillery. In the charge my regiment lost quite a number wounded. The enemy seeing us fall back again advanced upon our lines, assisted by fresh troops, and a second time caused our skirmishers to fall back. At this juncture I was again ordered to charge the enemy and if possible dislodge them, although the fire was very severe. I again charged with the brigade, again compelling the enemy to retire, which they did in a confused and disorganized mass, leaving behind them their dead and wounded and many prisoners in our possession. Owing to a misunderstanding of orders received I continued charging across the open field, and had advanced about 150 yards into the field, when I received orders to fall back and reform under cover of the woods. My loss

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 3 killed, 12 wounded, and 1 missing.

in this charge was more severe than in the first, owing to our being in plain view and the enemy opening upon us with his artillery for the purpose of covering the retreat of his troops.

As soon as I could collect the prisoners and my dead and wounded together I was ordered to fall back to my first position. In the charge I succeeded in capturing about 40 prisoners, which I ordered to be placed with a number the Thirty-fifth Iowa had taken in the same charge. By this time re-enforcements came forward, and I was ordered to fall back some 600 yards and form in a ditch in the field in the rear of the timber, for the purpose of resting, as my men were very much fatigued from the effects of the two charges we had made. Soon after I was ordered to move and take position with my brigade upon the extreme left, in which position I remained until 8 p. m., when I was ordered to move back to Avoyelles Bayou and bivouac for the night.

The following is a list of casualties of the regiment :* A number of others are slightly wounded, but not sufficiently to warrant their being reported. Too much praise cannot be awarded to the officers and men of my regiment for the coolness and bravery displayed while under the enemy's fire.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

GEO. W. VAN BEEK,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. HENRY HOOVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 38.

Reports of Col. William F. Lynch, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagement at Pleasant Hill, with itinerary of the brigade, March 1–*May* 20.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., March 18, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report relative to the part taken by my command in the engagement of the 14th of March, 1864, which resulted in the capture of Fort De Russy, La.:

My brigade left Simsport at 9.30 p. m. March 13, and with a rest of only four hours reached the town of Marksville, La., at about 2.30 p. m. of the 14th; distance from Simsport, 33 miles. The position of the brigade upon the line of march was in the rear of our division. When about 1 mile beyond Marksville heavy cannonading was heard about 1¼ miles in the front. My command was at this time well closed up, it having been previously reported that the enemy was in our vicinity. Orders were soon received to push forward and take position to support the Third Indiana Battery, which was then already in position and vigorously replying to the fire of the enemy. Rapidly my command advanced for about an eighth of a mile and formed line in front of the fort and about half a mile from it, the Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteers taking position upon the right of the main road, the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Volunteers on

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 killed and 14 wounded.

the left, the Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry Volunteers and Ninth Indiana Battery on a line and immediately in the rear. In this manner and under a heavy fire of shrapnel and grape, I pushed forward my line, but had advanced but a short distance when I received orders from you to move to the left flank, file right, and take position upon the right flank of the enemy's works—our left. Moved the infantry in the manner directed for nearly a mile, when I again formed line of battle in sight of the enemy's works and less than 100 yards from the fort. The Ninth Indiana Battery, at the commencement of this change in our position, was detached by the chief of artillery and pushed forward to the front of the fort to relieve the Third Indiana Battery, having done which they opened on the enemy, doing excellent service. On being again in line, threw forward three companies of skirmishers, who opened a brisk fire upon the enemy, which fire was speedily replied to from behind the enemy's works. Under orders my whole line then opened fire, and the battle from right to left of the brigade commenced in good earnest. At this time a short pause was made to enable the right to advance to the assault, the order being that the right would advance so soon as the attack became general. I then ordered an advance with bayonets fixed, and with a yell that echoed through the timber my brigade sprang forward, down the slope, up the hill, through the abatis, over the moat, and up the wall they clambered, and in less than ten minutes from the time the order was given to charge the stars and stripes waved in triumph over the works of Fort De Russy.

To my immediate staff officers I return my sincere thanks for their unflinching bravery and hearty co-operation during the brief but sanguinary struggle. To the officers commanding the several regiments forming my brigade, and to the officers and men in their several commands, I give my warmest thanks for their bravery and efficiency in the execution of all orders, when in a state of almost utter exhaustion, the result of an unprecedented march, and while under the galling fire which was for a time directed against them. Where all were brave, it is impossible to particularize individual bravery. All did well and nobly. I thank them. To Capt. M. O'Donnell, of your staff, I beg leave to return my thanks for the very valuable assistance rendered at the beginning of the engagement. Among the casualties was that of Lieut. James Carey, Company H, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, a brave and gallant young officer; fell severely wounded while urging his men forward. To the Eighty-ninth Indiana and One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry belong the credit of being the first to enter the fort, and to the Fifty-eighth Illinois belongs the glory of planting the first flag within the enemy's works, although those of the Eighty-ninth Indiana were but a few seconds behind. It is a matter of small import who were the first to enter or the first to hoist the flag, when there is no measure of time so short as will enable one to discriminate to which regiment of the First Brigade belongs the credit; enough it is to say, that to the First Brigade of the Third Division belongs the credit of being the first to enter the fort, and the first to plant our nation's flag thereon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. LYNCH,

Colonel Fifty-eighth Illinois Infy., Comdg. First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH A. MOWER,

Comdg. First and Third Divisions, 16th Army Corps.

Hdqrs. First Brig., Third Div., 16th Army Corps,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to report the following relative to the part taken by my brigade in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th day of April, 1864: In accordance with orders received, we marched from Grand Ecore, La., on the morning of the 7th; after proceeding some 15 miles on the Shreveport road went into camp for the night. On the morning of the 8th, we were detained somewhat in waiting for the Second and Third Brigades to pass. We started at 8 a. m., and arrived near Pleasant Hill at dark, having marched 21 miles. During the afternoon heavy cannonading was heard in our front, denoting an engagement between our advance (the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps) and the enemy. At 2 a. m. of the 9th, we were under arms awaiting the approach of the enemy who had defeated the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps. Remained on our arms until 10 a. m., when we moved forward about 1 mile and formed in the following order in the east center of the field, viz: The Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry in front, the Ninth Indiana Battery in its rear, and the Fifty-eighth and One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry in rear of the battery. Remained in this position till 12 m., when the Fifty-eighth and One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry were moved by the left flank to a point about 300 yards to the left and formed on a ridge in the woods, facing outward. From this point the Fifty-eighth Illinois was moved about half a mile to the front and left of the original position. Here this regiment was halted and a breast-work of fallen timber thrown up, behind which the men took shelter. After these arrangements were made skirmishers were thrown out from this regiment and the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois. The Eighty-ninth Indiana was then moved a short distance to the left, to support the Third Indiana Battery on the right and the First Vermont Battery on the left. The Ninth Indiana Battery was placed in position on the right of the Third Indiana Battery and about 200 yards therefrom, there being a New York regiment between. In this position we remained until 4 p. m., when musketry in our front admonished us that the fight had begun. Soon the enemy advanced from the woods, driving before them a brigade of Eastern troops which had occupied a position in the ravine or ditch on the opposite side of the field. Pursuing this brigade, and flushed with victory, the rebels continued to advance with yells that carried terror to many a stout heart. Still pressing on, they drove our troops back and even had possession of one of our batteries (Battery L, First U. S. Artillery), when on a sudden the Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, which had been advanced to the left and front, appeared in the edge of the woods on the enemy's right flank. The order was given to charge, and with unearthly yells and with lightning-like rapidity they were on the enemy. Fierce was the struggle, and nobly did the brave Fifty-eighth do their work. Driving the before victorious enemy before them, they halted not until the rebels were driven into the ditch in front. Here we captured about 400 prisoners, whom I sent to the rear in charge of an officer, with instructions to report them to Brigadier-General Mower, but who delivered them to a staff officer belonging, I have since understood, to the Nineteenth Army Corps. The Fifty-eighth Illinois claim to have captured more prisoners than they have men

in the regiment; certain it is, that their furious attack completely turned the flank of the enemy and decided in a great measure the fate of the day.

At this point the battle was most fierce; first success seemed to favor one and then the other. Twice were our boys driven back between the guns of the abandoned battery (L, First U. S. Artillery), and as often did they rally and repulse the enemy. At last the enemy were driven into the woods in confusion, and three pieces of artillery captured by the Fifty-eighth Illinois. During the fight a portion of the Fifty-eighth was aided by other troops of our corps and army. At the time of the driving back of the Eastern brigade the Eighty-ninth Indiana was advanced, delivering volley after volley. They continued to move forward. Inclining toward the right, reaching the woods, they drove the rebels in confusion before them into the very depths thereof. In the advance of the Eighty-ninth Regiment they drove away a rebel brigade, which had driven in disorder through the Ninth Indiana Battery an entire Maine regiment and a portion of a New York regiment. During the fight here many prisoners were captured by this regiment, among them several officers.

The conduct of the officers and men of the Eighty-ninth was most gallant; nobly did they stand up to the work. At the time of the attack by the Fifty-eighth Illinois on the enemy's flank, the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois changed front obliquely to the rear, and advanced on the enemy, keeping the left of the field. They drove before them a Texas regiment, the colors of which they captured. This regiment, although less exposed than either the Eighty-ninth Indiana or Fifty-eighth Illinois, still did the work assigned to them with the greatest promptitude and courage. After driving the rebels far into the woods, the Eighty-ninth Indiana was withdrawn to the edge of the field and formed into a new line, where it remained until it was joined by the other regiments of the brigade about 6.30 p. m. The Fifty-eighth Illinois after entering the woods became separated, a portion following the colors, and the remainder accompanying myself. After coming into the woods, I found the men in the greatest confusion. But knowing that our situation was most precarious, I ordered all to push forward. With a rush the men obeyed, the color-bearers to the front. Closely we pressed the rebels, driving them to the left, through the woods, and up the road for a distance of over 3 miles. Never did a man flinch, though the enemy outnumbered us six to one, the number of colors with us probably deceiving them as to our real strength. In this pursuit so close were we to the rebels that our men seized them by the collars, bayoneting some and capturing others while in the very act of firing their pieces. Six caissons and a large number of very fine horses were taken by us during this charge. Having pursued the enemy 3 miles, I found him forming beyond an open field in considerable force. Hastily forming my broken column, I found myself opposed to about 3,000 rebels, while my force did not exceed as many hundred. I directed the men to open fire, which was done at once, causing the rebels to break in confusion. Being so far from any support I found it necessary to rejoin our main force, and at once ordered a return, during which we were unmolested.

I can only account for the unprecedented success of my little corps by the complete defeat of the rebels, sustained on the open field and in the woods near the field. It being quite dark and being burdened

with our wounded, which we brought with us, I was compelled to leave the caissons, though I at the time supposed we were to bring them off in the morning. Having moved back to the open field, we joined the other regiments of the brigade, and, after obtaining a supply of ammunition, moved out with the brigade about a mile upon the road over which we had driven the rebels, and there formed line of battle and remained during the night. At this time the Fifty-eighth Illinois Regiment was detached and moved to their original position behind their fortifications upon the left of the open field. The Ninth Indiana Battery, at the beginning of the engagement, although in the finest position on the field, was completely masked by the battery (L, First U. S. Artillery), consequently could not be used till late in the engagement, at which time it made some very fine shots, dismounting one of the enemy's guns, and totally silencing the remaining guns of the battery. The officers and men of the First Brigade have fully indicated their great superiority over the rebel hosts to which they were opposed in the battle of Pleasant Hill. Feeling satisfied that if my brigade had been together greater would have been the results, I still feel a pride in knowing that to the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, belongs the credit of giving the enemy the first check, of turning his flank, of driving him farther, and of holding longer the grounds captured than any troops on the field.

To Lieut. George Sawin, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. William Wallis, acting assistant inspector-general, and Lieut. S. D. Sawyer, acting aide-de-camp, members of my personal staff, I am deeply indebted for their coolness, bravery, and efficiency. I would especially recommend to your favorable notice the following-named officers of the Fifty-eighth Illinois: Maj. Thomas Newlan, commanding; Capt. Robert W. Healy, acting field officer, and Lieut. J. O'Kane, acting adjutant. The line officers of this regiment are all worthy of especial mention; want of space alone prevents it. I must mention the extraordinary daring, coolness, and bravery of the two color-bearers, Sergt. Fred. Menk and Corpl. O. A. Teeple. Of the Eighty-ninth Indiana, Col. C. D. Murray, commanding the regiment; Lieut. Col. Hervey Craven, and Maj. Samuel Henry, also all the line officers, every one behaved gallantly. Of the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois, Col. Thomas J. Kinney, commanding the regiment, Maj. W .H. Watson, and all the line officers, deserve great credit. Capt. George R. Brown, of the Ninth Indiana Battery, has proved himself a capable, cool, and gallant officer. Capt. John Tobin, Company K, Fifty-eighth Illinois, fell shot through the heart while gallantly leading his men in the charge. Capt. F. S. Zeek, Company C, Eighty-ninth Indiana, fell severely wounded in both feet while bravely leading his company across the field. In this connection I would respectfully state that quite a number of the One hundred and seventy-eighth New York, with their colors, were with me on the 3-mile charge through the woods, and acquitted themselves with honor. Below I give you a list of casualties* in the First Brigade.

Again thanking the brave officers and men whom I have the honor to command, I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. LYNCH,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. J. B. Sample,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First and Third Divs., 16th A. C.

* Embodied in addenda to Smith's report, p. 313.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, March 1–May 20.**

March 1.—The brigade moved from Canton, Miss.

March 4.—Arrived at Vicksburg. The Twenty-first Regiment Missouri Volunteer Infantry having re-enlisted as veterans, Col. David Moore went home with them to superintend their reorganization, in consequence of which Col. W. F. Lynch, of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers, assumed command of the brigade March 5.

March 10.—The brigade embarked from Vicksburg on the Red River expedition.

March 13.—Having landed in Atchafalaya Bayou, 10 miles below the mouth of Red River, the brigade moved out with the expedition by land in the evening.

March 14.—In the afternoon the Third Division invested Fort De Russy, situated on Red River, some 75 or 80 miles from its mouth and 34 miles from where the brigade disembarked—Simsport. The engagement lasted two hours and was terminated by an assault upon and capture of the fortress, stores, and all the munitions of war, in which the First Brigade enacted a conspicuous part, the colors of the brigade being the first upon the ramparts. Casualties in the First Brigade, 4 killed and 26 wounded.

March 16.—Arrived at Alexandria, La.

March 26.—Moved on the Bayou Rapides road, 28 miles, to Cotile Landing.

April 2.—This brigade, forming part of the army engaged in the Red River expedition under Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks, left Cotile Landing, on Red River.

April 3.—Arrived at Grand Ecore, La., a distance of 80 miles northeast, and encamped.

April 7.—Broke camp and marched until the evening of the 8th, a distance of 36 miles and to within 1 mile of Pleasant Hill, La.

April 9.—Marched to Pleasant Hill and formed line of battle. From 4 p. m. until 6.30 p. m. was engaged in the sanguinary battle and Federal victory of Pleasant Hill, La. In this engagement the brigade acted in a highly meritorious and noble manner, driving the enemy before them wherever engaged, and losing in killed, wounded, and missing, 98.

April 10.—Marched toward Grand Ecore, La.

April 12.—Arrived at that place and went into camp.

April 20.—Broke camp again and marched 5 miles to Natchitoches, La., where line of battle was formed and skirmishing with the enemy was continued until the night of the 21st, when, with the balance of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, the brigade crossed Cane River, or Old Red River, covering the retreat of the army to Alexandria, La., where it arrived on the 26th.

May 1.—Moved out from Alexandria, La., some 6 miles, where it remained, doing outpost duty, until the 5th, when it was ordered out to fight for forage, during which day and the next there was some fighting, the brigade losing 6 men killed and 11 wounded.

May 14.—Started en route for the Mississippi River, reaching Simsport, on the Atchafalaya Bayou, on the 17th.

May 18.—In the afternoon had a deadly fight with almost three

*From returns for March, April, and May.

times our own number on Smith's plantation, near Simsport, the brigade losing 13 commissioned officers and 146 enlisted men killed and wounded.

May 20.—In the evening the brigade moved to the mouth of Red River, where the troops were embarked and proceeded up the river to Vicksburg, Miss.

No. 39.

Reports of Col. Thomas J. Kinney, One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry, commanding regiment and First Brigade, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

Headquarters 119th Illinois Volunteers,
On board Steamer Adriatic, Alexandria, La., March 17, 1864.

Colonel: I have the honor to present the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the action of the 14th instant, in which was captured Fort De Russy: We left Simsport at 9.30 p. m. the 13th; marched some 8 miles; went into camp at 1 a. m. of the 14th; commenced the march again at 5 a. m., marching a distance of 32 miles in less than twenty hours, our brigade being in the rear of division on the march. The ball was opened by the Third Indiana Battery before we came up. After a brisk firing on each side with artillery, I received your order for my regiment to move forward, passing the Ninth Indiana Battery, and to form line on the left of the road and in rear of Third Indiana Battery, with our right resting on the road and to move forward, which was done. This line was formed at 4.45 p. m. After moving forward through the field and into the wood I was ordered to halt my command and wait for the Fifty-eighth Illinois, which had formed on the right of the road, to come up on a line with me. When the line was complete, by your order, I moved forward again. After moving some 150 yards farther forward, I was ordered by Captain ———, of General Mower's staff, to move by the left flank, filing to the right, in order to flank the front. I accordingly did so, taking the lead of the brigade, followed by the Eighty-ninth Indiana (Colonel Murray) and Fifty-eighth Illinois (Major Newlan). We moved by the flank around to the extreme left of the fort, completely surrounding the same, and formed line within 100 yards of the works of the enemy. We halted for a moment to see that the formation was complete with the Eighty-ninth and Fifty-eighth, when the enemy opened upon us with musketry, which was returned with vigor and coolness for a moment; then your order was received to charge the works. I immediately gave the command to charge, and with bayonets fixed, with loud cheering, the men moved forward upon the works without a falter until the works were carried. Upon rising the works I discovered a white flag floating from the enemy's works, which indicated that they had surrendered. In this engagement I lost in killed 1 man, mortally wounded 2, and slightly wounded 7; total killed and wounded, 10.

It is impossible for me to particularize in regard to the actions or bravery of any one officer or man. All did their duty well and bravely, and I am proud to say that in this the first general engage-

ment in which my regiment has participated, that it has so nobly and fully come up to the expectations of its commander. It is not possible for me to say positively who entered or what regiment entered the works first; it is claimed by every regiment that was engaged in the charge. It is my opinion that the right of my regiment was upon the works the first of any. The colors of the Fifty-eighth Illinois or the Eighty-ninth Indiana were up before my colors were. This was owing to the distance from the works and the obstructions in the way of the charge and in ascending the works. It is a small matter of contention who entered first, as all entered nearly the same time, and there could not have been one minute's difference in the time of which the whole brigade was inside the works; and I can only say that the First Brigade was the rear in column on the march, was the last brigade in position (having passed completely around the enemy's works), the first to make the charge, the first to enter the works, and the first to plant the national flag inside the fort. To the officers and men under my command I tender my thanks for their skill, coolness, and bravery, and to officers under whose command I am I can only say that I am proud to be commanded by them.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant,

THOMAS J. KINNEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

Col. WILLIAM F. LYNCH,
Commanding First Brigade.

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HDQRS. 119TH ILLINOIS INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
Steamer Adriatic, Alexandria, La., April 26, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to send herewith the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: We left Grand Ecore on the morning of the 7th, marched through mud and rain 15 miles, and camped at 5 o'clock near the Double Bridges. Next morning were off again at 7 o'clock; marched 20 miles to a point about 1 mile east of Pleasant Hill; went into camp at 9 p. m. At this time we received notice of the defeat of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps, and were informed that they would fall back and form in our rear. With this understanding we formed our commands at 2 a. m. on the 9th, and awaited the movements of the other troops. The trains of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps passed through our lines and were parked in our rear. We remained in this position until about 9 a. m., when we were ordered to the front to form line of battle at the hill; accordingly the brigade moved forward, the Eighty-ninth Indiana in advance, the Ninth Indiana Battery next, followed by the Fifty-eighth Illinois, and my regiment bringing up the rear. We moved to the open field, where we were drawn up in line, and remained in that position for about one hour, when I received your order to move my regiment by the left flank and form in the wood on the left of the field, with my left extending obliquely to the rear, in order to guard against a flank movement of the enemy; the Fifty-eighth Illinois moving in the [same] direction, but about one-fourth of a mile to my right and about the same distance to the front. These movements were executed with great dispatch at about 10 a. m. We were left in this

position to await the coming conflict. At about 4 p. m. the skirmishing in front indicated to us that the battle had commenced, and each officer and man was looking with great anxiety for the time to come when we would be required to perform the duty assigned us in that part of the field.

The firing in front became more general as time passed, and the Nineteenth Corps was falling back, hotly pressed by the advancing foe, until about 5 o'clock, when the lines of the Nineteenth Corps were broken and the enemy charged through the wood and into the open field, driving everything before them. At this moment I changed front to rear obliquely on the left company of my regiment, in order to prevent the enemy's right flank [attack], and, by order of General Stone, moved forward my right near the edge of the prairie or open field. I moved in this direction until I came to the lower part of the field, when I met a Texas regiment and part or all of a Missouri regiment. I opened a heavy fire on them at once, and pressed forward upon them before they could rally from the shock and drove them in great confusion before me. At this point I took one stand of rebel colors (the Texas) and several prisoners. I here halted for a moment and rallied a portion of the Thirtieth Maine Regiment, which had been driven back in confusion, and formed them in my rear; then moved them up to my right and moved forward through the woods, swinging around to the right as I advanced, until near the Shreveport road. When dark came on I found myself near 2 miles from the point of starting. I then moved back to the open field and awaited orders, when, after some delay, I was ordered to move back to the position occupied by me at the commencement of the fight, which I did. After stacking arms and preparing to get supper, I received another order to move my command, in connection with the Eighty-ninth Indiana, up the Shreveport road, and camp in line of battle. After some delay in procuring a new supply of ammunition we moved, as ordered, up the road near 1½ miles, stacked arms, placed our pickets, laid down, without supper, in hopes of getting some rest and to be ready to resume the fight in the morning or at any moment required. In about half an hour we were ordered to move back some half a mile, it being feared that we had gone too far out. I called the men up from their sleep, and with great caution moved back to the point indicated, where we again stacked arms and prepared for sleep. This occupied the time until about 11.30 o'clock. At 2 a. m. on the 10th, we received orders to form line and prepare to move immediately. This time there was no difficulty in getting the men up, as they expected to make a night attack upon the enemy and had every confidence in their ability under their generals and more immediate commanders to punish the enemy badly, when, to our astonishment, the order was given to face to the left and move back to Grand Ecore. This march was made in good order, making a distance of 22 miles to Double Bridges, near the camp-ground on the night of the 7th, and went into camp about 2 p. m. Next day we marched to Grand Ecore, the men weary, tired, and almost discouraged at what they considered an unnecessary retreat. But of such things we are not the proper persons to judge.

In this battle the First Brigade was so divided that each regiment had to act independently of the others, and without support; consequently the service done might have been greater had the brigade been acting together and under the immediate command of our proper commander. But I am happy to say that they all went into

the fight with a determination to conquer or be left on the field. As I was detached from the regiment, I cannot speak particularly of their movements after we entered the woods, but feel and know they did as much as men could do, and much more than some supposed could have been done at the time the enemy charged through the open field. In the fight I lost 1 man killed and 1 man severely, if not mortally, wounded, who was left at the hospital at Pleasant Hill, and 1 man shot through the hand. I can only speak of the men and officers of my command in general terms. They all, without a single exception, came up to the work like old veterans, and performed the duties assigned with the greatest coolness and dispatch. To Maj. W. H. Watson and Adjt. H. S. Buck I tender my thanks for the promptness with which they performed their duties, and to all the officers and men of my command I tender my thanks for their courage, bravery, and coolness, and with the hope that in case we should have another battle that the First Brigade will not be divided, but left to the command of Colonel Lynch, under the direction of our much-esteemed Generals Smith and Mower; then I shall feel that success will surely crown our efforts, and that the flag of our country will wave triumphantly, and that the fair fame of the old Sixteenth Army Corps will not be tarnished.

I am, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS J. KINNEY,

Colonel, Comdg. 119th Illinois Vol. Infantry.

Col. W. F. LYNCH,

Comdg. First Brig., Third Div., 16th Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,

Mouth Red River, La., May 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the battle of Bayou De Glaize, fought on the 18th instant near Simsport, La.: Col. W. F. Lynch, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, being absent at the time, the command of the brigade devolved on me. At 9 a. m. skirmishing with our cavalry in front caused General Mower to move Colonel Hill's brigade to the front, and at 11 o'clock I received orders to move the First Brigade forward, and in a few moments was in motion, arriving at or near the scene of action at 12 m., having moved out by the flank, the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Volunteers in advance, Lieut. Col. S. E. Taylor commanding, followed by the Ninth Indiana Battery, Capt. G. R. Brown commanding; next the Fifty-eighth Illinois, Capt. R. W. Healy commanding, with the Eighty-ninth Indiana, Lieut. Col. H. Craven commanding, bringing up the rear. I then filed to the left, and moved across the field, forming with my left resting on the woods. From thence I moved forward to a ditch, where I halted to await orders. I soon received orders for the Fifty-eighth Illinois to move forward and join on the left of Colonel Hill's brigade, and for the other two regiments to remain in their position until Colonel Shaw's brigade came up on the right, then to move forward on a line with him. I then sent for the Ninth Indiana Battery, which had been left near the road. In a short time Colonel Shaw's brigade and the battery came up and we moved forward into the timber. Here Colonel Shaw's brigade was halted,

while I moved forward and formed on the left of the Fifty-eighth Illinois, when the whole line was halted. Skirmishers were thrown out in front and on the left to protect the flank, and the Ninth Indiana Battery was brought into position between the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois and the Eighty-ninth Indiana, and opened a heavy fire upon the enemy. But it was not long before the enemy got fine range on our battery, and put in several very close shots, which compelled us to change the position of the battery farther to the left, which was soon done and firing renewed from the guns. We soon ascertained that the shots fell short, doing no great damage to the enemy. During this time, however, the enemy was steadily advancing, the skirmishing becoming heavier. The enemy was gradually driving our skirmish line in, and advancing in overwhelming numbers. The order was passed to fix bayonets and charge the enemy.

In a moment the whole line was in motion, soon meeting the advancing foe, and pouring into his ranks a deadly fire as the men advanced on double-quick. With cheer upon cheer we advanced. The enemy faltered, stopped, turned, and fled before the glittering line of bayonets and galling fire of our men, who nobly pressed forward through the woods to the open field beyond. Here we halted, being too weak to press the charge farther. I then discovered that an effort was being made to turn my left flank. I immediately changed the front of the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois obliquely to the rear on first company in order to protect the line. I then received the order to fall back, and, facing the brigade by the rear rank, moved back in line of battle to the open field originally occupied by us. In checking the attempt made by the enemy to turn my left, the Ninth Indiana Battery rendered great service, double-shotting the guns with canister. The Twenty-seventh Iowa was ordered to its support, and one section of the Third Indiana Battery also came to its assistance, and all poured such a murderous fire into the ranks of the enemy that he was compelled to fall back in great disorder. I then reformed the brigade, moving farther to the right, and then advancing again to the fence in rear of the timber. Here I halted until the Second Brigade, Colonel Shaw, was placed in position on my left. At this time I learned that Colonel Lynch had arrived on the field during the charge, and that he had been severely wounded and carried off the field in a moment after he arrived. The enemy, having rallied as we fell back, made another attack upon our skirmish lines, and with greatly superior numbers thought to overwhelm our little band; but the men, nothing daunted or disheartened at the loss of their comrades, charged the enemy the second time with such daring bravery that he again fell back, pursued by our men through the woods into the open field. Again we were ordered to fall back to the original position, and again the enemy attempted to turn our left flank, but with no better success than at first. After falling back to the open field the second time, re-enforcements came up, but the enemy had already received such punishment as induced him not to try another attack.

Darkness soon came on, and the brigade was ordered back to the camp across Yellow Bayou, while the fresh troops took position behind a hedge in the open ground near the battle-field. This, perhaps, was one of the most severe battles of the war, considering the numbers engaged on our side, having but three brigades, of less than 1,000 men each, to contend against at least three times their number,

as it is asserted by prisoners taken that the enemy had 21,000 men, 10,000 of whom were in reserve. The day was excessively warm, and many of our men fell from sunstroke and exhaustion. There being no water in our reach, the men suffered exceedingly for want of it. The position occupied by this brigade was the most exposed, as will be seen from the loss, which is 13 commissioned officers and 146 enlisted men killed and wounded.

Too much praise cannot be given to the officers and men who participated in this engagement. Each one seemed to think that success depended upon his own individual exertions and governed himself accordingly. To their extraordinary coolness and bravery is attributed the success of the engagement against such vastly superior numbers. It is proper here to state that the last charge of the brigade was conducted by Lieut. Col. Hervey Craven, of the Eighty-ninth Indiana Volunteers. My horse having been killed in the first charge and fallen upon my left leg, I was compelled, after reforming the brigade and moving it forward, to transfer the command temporarily to him. Of acts of personal bravery I am unable to speak, as all did so well it is almost impossible to particularize. The killed and wounded of the brigade were with two exceptions carried from the field. We took several prisoners in each charge, but I am not able to give the exact number. To Lieut. Col. Hervey Craven and Maj. Samuel Henry, of the Eighty-ninth Indiana Volunteers; Capt. R. W. Healy, commanding Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteers; Lieut. Col. Samuel E. Taylor and Maj. W. H. Watson, of the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Volunteers; Lieut. George Sawin, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieut. William Wallis, acting assistant inspector-general, First Brigade, and to Capt. George R. Brown, Ninth Indiana Battery, I tender my thanks, and to all the officers and men under my command for their coolness and bravery in this engagement. My only cause of regret is that so many brave and good men fell at the hands of the enemy.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS J. KINNEY,
Colonel 119th Illinois Infantry, Comdg. Brigade.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 40.

Report of Maj. Thomas Newlan, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. FIFTY-EIGHTH REGT. ILLINOIS INFANTRY VOLS.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report regarding action taken by this regiment in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: At 10 a. m., April 9, our brigade moved from the camping-ground of the previous night, about 1 mile east of the scene of action, and took position on the field of Pleasant Hill, in front of the white house used as General Banks' headquarters, in the following order, viz: In two lines, the Ninth Indiana Battery and Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry forming the first and the One hundred and

nineteenth Illinois Infantry and my regiment the second line, the latter being on the right of the second line, with its right resting on the road by which we came. In this position we stacked arms and rested till about 12.30 p. m., when we moved, under direction of our brigade commander, with the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois Infantry, into the woods, about 300 yards directly to the left, and formed a new line in conjunction with the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois on our left, facing outward and almost perpendicular to the original line. My regiment remained here less than an hour, when it was moved by General Stone, chief of General Banks' staff, about 300 yards obliquely to the right and front, and posted on a high point of ground in rear of a dry slough or ravine, facing the heavy timber in front, from which the enemy was expected to attack the left flank of our army. The ravine referred to stretched off to our right along the border of the woods to the main road, the open field of Pleasant Hill being on our right and stretching off over a fourth of a mile to our rear, toward the position held by the right of our brigade. One hundred and fifty paces to our right, and in the ravine, was posted Benedict's brigade of the Nineteenth Army Corps, and on the ridge in their rear four guns of a regular battery.

In accordance with the order of Colonel Lynch I had erected a small breast-work of fallen timber for the protection of my men, which General Stone afterward ordered [me] to hold at all hazards. While resting here awaiting the enemy's attack I found that our army was drawn up in the shape of a crescent, the horns of which [extended] toward the enemy. My command formed the tip of the left horn facing the enemy, the right thrown slightly forward. In this position we were not attacked as expected. About 4 p. m. heavy skirmishing commenced on our right, and a few minutes afterward the rebels charged Benedict's brigade, which delivered one or two volleys and fled in disorder. Being hid by an undergrowth of pine the enemy did not observe us, but passed by our right flank, 200 yards distant, like an irresistible avalanche, pursuing the retreating brigade toward the center of the crescent. Observing this, seeing the battery referred to captured, and fearing that we would be cut off and captured, I fell back about 100 paces, changed front so as to face the enemy's flank, and immediately opened fire with deadly effect. In a few minutes the enemy began to stagger under our fire, and finally broke in disorder. I immediately ordered the regiment to charge. The officers and men obeyed with alacrity, drove the rebels back across the ravine to the woods, and recaptured the lost battery and numerous prisoners. At the edge of the wood the enemy made a determined stand, pouring such a deadly volley into our ranks that we were obliged to fall back; but at this moment the Eighty-ninth Indiana, coming to our support, poured in a volley which again put the rebels to flight. My men immediately rallied, again charged with the rest of our line, and followed the flying enemy till darkness put an end to the pursuit. We halted and began to retrace our steps at a point at least 1 mile from where the battle began. During the pursuit my command sent more prisoners to the rear than it had men engaged. Our loss in the action was 5 killed and 32 wounded. Capt. John Tobin, of Company K, was killed; he fell while nobly leading his men to the charge.

I am deeply indebted to both officers and men for the brave and heroic manner in which they all did their duty; so nobly did all

behave that I cannot particularize one more than another. During the engagement I was ably seconded by my acting field and staff officers, to whom I am deeply grateful.

Respectfully, &c.,

THOMAS NEWLAN,
Major, Comdg. Fifty-eighth Illinois Infy. Vols.

Col. WILLIAM F. LYNCH,
Commanding First Brigade.

No. 41.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Hervey Craven, Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Bayou Lamourie and engagement at Yellow Bayou.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-NINTH REGT. INDIANA INFY. VOLS.,
Governor Moore's Plantation, La., May 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor of reporting to you that the Eighty-ninth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry on yesterday, 7th day of May, at the time under my command and comprising a part of the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, commanded by Col. William F. Lynch, under the command of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, both of whom were personally present, were engaged in a skirmish with the enemy on Bayou Lamourie, about 15 miles from Alexandria, La., with the following casualties, to wit:* Officers and men behaved themselves with becoming gallantry, forming line of battle under severe fire, and at once charged and repulsed the enemy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HERVEY CRAVEN,
Lieut. Col. Eighty-ninth Regt. Indiana Vols., Comdg.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-NINTH INDIANA INFANTRY VOLS.,
Simsport, La., May 19, 1864.

HONORED SIR: In obedience to General Orders, No. 169, War Department, 1862, I have the honor of reporting to you that the Eighty-ninth Regiment Indiana Infantry on yesterday, the 18th instant, under my command and composing a part of the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, commanded by Col. William F. Lynch generally, but owing to his temporary absence at the onset commanded by Colonel Kinney, of the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois, and under the command of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, who was personally present, were engaged in battle with the enemy on Smith's and Norwood's plantations, on Bayou De Glaize, about 5 miles from Simsport, La., with the following casualties, to wit:†

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* Nominal list (omitted) reports 4 killed, 11 wounded, and 1 missing.

† Nominal list (omitted) reports 1 officer (Capt. Bedford W. Gifford) and 6 men killed, and 3 officers and 41 men wounded; aggregate, 51.

Shortly after, or about the time the engagement became general, Col. W. F. Lynch, riding onto the field and participating in the engagement, was wounded by a musket-shot in the right leg below the knee, and taken from the field. Colonel Kinney's horse being shot from under him, and falling on one of his legs, disabled him temporarily, when he turned over the command of the brigade to me. The Fifty-eighth Illinois, under command of Captain Healy; the Eighty-ninth Indiana, under command of Maj. Samuel Henry; and the One hundred and nineteenth Illinois, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, officers and men, all behaved themselves well, and were well handled, and with great coolness, by their respective regimental commanders, after I had assumed the command of the brigade, repulsing the enemy in a desperate charge with great slaughter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HERVEY CRAVEN,
Lieut. Col. Eighty-ninth Regt. Ind. Infy. Vols., Comdg.

Col. E. D. Townsend,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.

No. 42.

Reports of Col. William T. Shaw, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou, with itinerary of the brigade, March 10–May 24.

Hdqrs. Second Brig., Third Div., 16th Army Corps,
Alexandria, La., March 17, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 14th of March, 1864, my command, consisting of the Fourteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirty-second Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri Regiments, and Third Indiana Battery, was ordered to take the advance in line of march toward Fort De Russy, 28 miles distant. We started at 6 o'clock, with the enemy's forces close in front. They fell back as we advanced, attempting to burn bridges and retard our progress. We pressed them closely, and although several bridges were fired, little damage was done to affect our progress till we reached the Bayou De Glaize, where they had burned the bridge and made a stand on the opposite bank with a force of about 600 or 800 men. I immediately ordered forward the Third Indiana Battery, with a regiment of infantry, and opened fire on them, clearing the banks so as to enable me to cross my infantry unmolested in a scow which they had left uninjured, and also enable the pioneer corps to construct a bridge on which to cross the artillery and teams. I was here delayed about two hours. As soon as my artillery had crossed, I pushed rapidly forward till I arrived at the town of Marksville, 2½ miles distant from the fort. Here, by order of Brigadier-General Smith, the Twenty-seventh Iowa was left to close up the rear of the army. With the rest of my command I pushed on rapidly toward the fort.

At about 4 p. m. I came within range of the guns on the enemy's work. I ordered the Third Indiana Battery to take position on or near the main road leading to and within 800 yards of the fort and open fire immediately. I then deployed the Fourteenth Iowa on the right and the Twenty-fourth Missouri on the left of the battery for its support. Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold, commanding Fourteenth Iowa, sent forward two companies of his regiment as skirmishers and took possession of a line of rifle-pits, about 300 yards from the main fort, which enabled me to greatly annoy the enemy's gunners. At this time the fire was exceedingly brisk from both artillery and musketry, which was replied to with equal energy and rapidity from the fort. Colonel Scott, commanding the Thirty-second Iowa, had now arrived with his regiment. I ordered him to the right of an open space on the Marksville road to watch the water battery and support the skirmishers of the Fourteenth Iowa, that by this time extended some distance to the right. This movement was promptly executed, and the position gained with but slight loss. A general assault was now determined on, and I was ordered to advance my brigade, when I heard heavy firing on the left. Colonel Gilbert, commanding Twenty-seventh Iowa, had now arrived, and as my skirmishers from the Fourteenth Iowa had exhausted their ammunition, I ordered him to advance with his regiment to the ground occupied by them. The heavy firing at this time commenced on the left, and the command forward was given to all the regiments except the Twenty-fourth Missouri, to which I had already dispatched my aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Berg, with the order, but just before his arrival the regiment was ordered forward, and led in person by Brigadier-General Mower, commanding division. The advance was, however, nearly simultaneous with the whole brigade, the different regiments arriving at nearly the same time at the works of the enemy. The Twenty-fourth Missouri, led by General Mower in person, has the honor of being the first of my brigade to plant their colors on the walls of the fort, and as far as my observation went the first that were raised on the works of the enemy. At 6 p. m. the enemy had surrendered. My command had in twelve hours marched 28 miles, been delayed two hours in building a bridge, fought two hours, stormed and assisted in capturing Fort De Russy—a good day's work.

My special thanks are due to Captain Cockefair, Lieutenant Ginn, and the other officers and men of the Third Indiana Battery, for their promptness in bringing on the action and the steady bravery with which they maintained their fire for nearly two hours under the heavy fire of the enemy's batteries; also to Colonel Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa; Colonel Scott, Thirty-second Iowa; Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold, Fourteenth Iowa, and Major Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri, and all their officers and men, for the promptness and enthusiasm with which they executed all orders, and the good order with which they came into action, after so long and fatiguing a march. I am proud to say that not a single instance came under my observation of any officer or soldier attempting to shun danger or duty during the engagement, and my opportunity was good for observing each regiment as it came under fire. To my staff officers, Captain Granger, Twenty-seventh Iowa; Lieutenant Buell, Fourteenth Iowa; Lieutenant Rapp, Thirty-third Missouri, and Lieutenant Berg, Third Indiana Battery, I am under great obligations for

their valuable assistance rendered during the action; also for the prompt and efficient manner in which they fulfilled the duties of their positions.

A list of casualties has already been forwarded.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. SHAW,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. J. B. Sample,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First and Third Divs., 16th Army Corps.

Hdqrs. Second Brig., Third Div., 16th Army Corps,
Grand Ecore, La., April 15, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to report that at 10 a. m., April 9, 1864, I was ordered to report with my brigade, consisting of the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, and Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, to Major-General Banks. By him I was ordered to proceed with my command to the front, and report to Brigadier-General Emory, which I did at about 10.30 a. m. Brigadier-General Emory ordered me to relieve Brigadier-General McMillan, who was posted on the left of the Mansfield road and at right angles to it, in a dense thicket, with an old field in front dotted over with small pines. About 100 yards to his front and on his right were four guns of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery. Brigadier-General Dwight's command was posted on McMillan's right, and diagonally to his rear. On the right of the New York battery was a ridge, which completely commanded McMillan's whole line and the town, and which also covered the approach of the enemy. I therefore deemed it proper to occupy this ridge with the Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, and relieve General McMillan with the balance of my brigade. This was accordingly done and General McMillan retired. This left a gap on my left and also threw my right beyond General Dwight's support, but with this disadvantage I considered the position better than the one occupied by the troops I had relieved. At this time General Smith came up, to whom I pointed out the position of my forces, which was approved, except that he ordered me to move my main line farther to the right, which brought three companies of the Fourteenth Iowa in and on the right of the Mansfield road; this, consequently, left a greater gap on my left. General Emory was aware of the changes by my brigade, but I cannot learn that he gave any orders for a corresponding change of Dwight's brigade. General Emory at this time left the front, and I saw no more of him till after dark that night, these dispositions having brought Dwight's brigade in the rear of my second regiment, and nearly perpendicular to my line of battle.

At this time my skirmishers were heavily engaged, and an attack appeared imminent. I deemed it prudent to consult with General Dwight, as General Emory had left that part of the field, and I could neither find him or any of his staff. I accordingly went along the line of his brigade to the place where he had his brigade flag, but could neither find him nor any of his staff, when I was informed by some officers that they had seen an officer near a house in the rear, trying to get a tent pitched, whom they understood to be General Dwight. I accordingly rode to the place, and after much

difficulty, I aroused an officer who was pointed out as his assistant adjutant-general. From him I learned that General Dwight was away, but said he would send me word as soon as he returned. After waiting some time, I again went to his headquarters, but was unable to learn where he could be found. The enemy's skirmishers had now (3 p. m.) passed my right, and my skirmishers were pressed so closely that it had become necessary to support them with another company. I again went in search of General Dwight, and this time found him after a great deal of difficulty. He appeared to understand my position, and promised to send the necessary support; this he not only failed to do, but withdrew farther to the rear. At about 4 p. m. General Stone rode to the front. I rode with him along my line, showing him the change that had been made from Emory's original line and the necessity of a corresponding change in Dwight's line. After examining this part of the field his remark was, "Your position is well chosen; it is admirable; it could not be better. I will see that your flanks are properly supported, for this position must be held at all hazards," and immediately passed to my rear, as supposed, to give the necessary orders, but no orders came. A few moments before 5 o'clock the enemy opened heavily on me with artillery, which was replied to feebly, for a few moments, by the Twenty-fifth New York Battery, when they limbered up and disgracefully left the field, leaving one caisson and one gun in the road, which were drawn off by Lieutenant Buell, of my staff. At the same time General Dwight fell entirely out of my sight to the rear. While my battery was leaving a dash was made by the enemy's cavalry to capture it, but they were so well received by the Fourteenth Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri that not a single man escaped, their leader, Colonel Bagley [Buchel], falling dead in the ranks of the Fourteenth Iowa. This attack was followed by their infantry, which advanced in two lines, extending beyond both my right and left. They advanced steadily and in good order across the open field in my front, until they got within easy range; then my whole line opened upon them, stopping their advance but not preventing them from replying vigorously to my fire, causing heavy loss. My men held their ground, keeping up a steady and well-directed fire, which soon compelled their first line to fall back in disorder. In the mean time fighting had commenced on my left, and our line to my left had fallen back, so as to enable the enemy to pass in rear of my left. They had also passed around my right and were firing on my flank, when their second line advanced, and I was again engaged along my whole front.

At this time I received an order from General Smith to fall back, as the enemy was getting in my rear. My staff officers having all been dispatched to different officers for support, and being myself on the right of my brigade, I had to ride to the left in rear of my brigade to give the order to withdraw. The brush and timber was so thick I could scarcely see 10 paces as I passed down the line. I sent the order to Colonel Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa, to fall back as soon as the regiment on his right should commence retreating. I then pushed on to give the necessary orders to Colonel Scott, Thirty-second Iowa, when I met the enemy's forces entirely in his rear, preventing me from communicating with him. I was therefore compelled to leave him to act without orders. Hurrying back to the right, I found the Twenty-fourth Missouri had been compelled to change its front to receive the attack from the right; also that the

enemy was pressing my front with overwhelming numbers, the ammunition of the Fourteenth Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri nearly exhausted, Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold, commanding Fourteenth Iowa, shot dead, his adjutant mortally wounded. I therefore considered it necessary to give the orders to fall back to the three regiments with which I could communicate, leaving Colonel Scott, Thirty-second Iowa, to extricate himself as best he could. Owing to the heavy firing and great loss of officers in the Fourteenth Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri, I was compelled to give the orders to the men in person to fall back, which, together with the thick brush, caused a temporary confusion in their ranks, but they rapidly reformed and were ready again to meet the enemy, but night had set in and the fighting ceased. My men fought well, holding their ground till ordered to retire, and although my loss was three times that of any other brigade on the field, they were still in such condition that the commanding general saw fit to give them the responsible post of covering the retreat of the army, which commenced at 1 o'clock the next morning, and was accomplished in safety.

I have to report the loss of many valuable officers and men. Among them I will mention Lieutenant-Colonel Mix, Thirty-second Iowa, in whom the State has lost a valuable citizen and the army a good soldier; and Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold, commanding Fourteenth Iowa, a Christian gentleman, and a brave, industrious, and conscientious officer, whose loss to his regiment is irreparable.

I cannot speak too highly of my regimental commanders. Of Col. John Scott, Thirty-second Iowa, it is sufficient praise to say that he is worthy to command the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry—a regiment which, after having been entirely surrounded and cut off from the rest of the command, with nearly one-half of its number either killed or wounded, among them many of their best and most prominent officers, successfully forced its way through the enemy's lines, and was in line ready and anxious to meet the enemy in less than thirty minutes. Of Colonel Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa, and his regiment I can say that they did their whole duty. Although they had never been under fire before, they gave their fire with coolness and precision of veterans, and fully sustained the reputation of Iowa soldiers. Colonel Gilbert, although wounded early in the action, remained in command of his men until the fighting ceased. Of Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold, commanding Fourteenth Iowa, and his regiment, upon whose banners were inscribed Donelson, Shiloh, Siege of Corinth, and Corinth, they fully maintained the credit of a name already glorious in the annals of their country. To Major Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri, with his command and a detachment of Twenty-first Missouri (those heroes who had learned to fight under old Dave Moore), I cannot give too great praise for the successful manner in which they defended so long the important position that was assigned them—a position the most important in our whole line, and which, had it been defended less obstinately, might have endangered our whole army. The long list of killed and wounded, amounting to nearly 500, shows the desperate valor with which my men fought. My men were the first in the fight, the longest in the fight, and in the hardest of the fight, and were the last to leave the battle-field, and were ready and willing to remain and reap the fruits of a victory which they had so dearly purchased; but they were soldiers and must obey the orders of their superiors. To Captain Granger, Lieutenant Berg, and Lieutenant

Buell, of staff, I return my warmest thanks for their able assistance during the action. My warmest gratitude is due to my orderly, Frederick Nolan, Company K, Fourteenth Iowa, for his constant presence whenever needed during the hottest of the action, and in the most exposed position.

In closing this report I have to state that, although under General Emory's orders, and the farthest advanced of any troops in the field, and skirmishing with the enemy for six hours before the attack commenced, I neither saw General Emory or any of his staff until after the fighting had ceased, nor was I able to find him, although I dispatched several messengers to him to report the situation of affairs. Inclosed herewith please find plan* of that part of the battle-field occupied by my brigade.

WM. T. SHAW,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the part taken by my brigade in the action of Bayou De Glaize, May 18, 1864.

My brigade was placed in reserve at the commencement of the action. I was ordered to send forward a regiment to support a battery on the right. I sent forward Major Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri. I next sent to the left my two Napoleon guns, under Lieutenant Burns, Third Indiana Battery, my two James rifles having already been engaged under Lieutenant Ginn. I was next ordered to send another regiment up to support the batteries on the left. I sent forward the Fourteenth Iowa, commanded by Capt. L. A. Crane. This left but two regiments in reserve, viz, Thirty-second Iowa, Major Eberhart commanding, and Twenty-seventh Iowa, Colonel Gilbert commanding. I soon perceived that the enemy was pressing closely our left, and without waiting orders I ordered the two regiments in reserve to move slowly to the left while I rode to the front to see how the battle went. I soon saw that the cavalry on the left had given way, and that the enemy was turning our left flank. I immediately ordered the reserve into line at double-quick, fronting to the left, when the enemy made their appearance through the timber in their front, but a well-directed fire from the Twenty-seventh and Thirty-second Iowa, the Ninth Indiana Battery, and the two 12-pounder Napoleons of the Third Indiana Battery, also the Fourteenth Iowa, which had changed its front, soon sent them back with heavy loss. The enemy, having been heavily re-enforced, again advanced, when I was ordered to move forward and meet him. I moved forward, meeting him in the edge of the timber, driving him out of the timber, across an open field, under the protection of their artillery, inflicting upon him heavy loss. I then halted and withdrew with the balance of the line out of range of canister, and remained till dark, when we fell back to the ground occupied the night before. My list of casualties I have already forwarded. My loss, though heavy, is comparatively

*Not found.

light when it is considered that I was twice engaged at short range with nearly four times my number of infantry, and that I was for two hours under a heavy fire of artillery.

WM. T. SHAW,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., 1st and 3d Divs., 16th Army Corps.

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*Itinerary of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, March 10–May 24.**

March 10.—The brigade left Vicksburg as part of the Red River expedition, under command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith.

March 12.—Entered the mouth of Red River.

March 14.—Marched across from Atchafalaya River to Fort De Russy, on Red River. The brigade, being in advance of the army, attacked, and, after fighting two hours, charged upon and captured the fort with upward of 200 prisoners and 10 pieces of artillery. The distance marched from Atchafalaya to Red River was 35 miles.

March 16.—The brigade came to Alexandria.

March 26.—Marched to Cotile Landing, 20 miles.

April 2.—Left Cotile Landing, on Red River, La., on board transports.

April 3.—Reached Grand Ecore, La.; lay in camp until the 7th.

April 7.—Moved out as part of Brigadier-General Smith's command on the Shreveport road.

April 8.—Encamped at night near Pleasant Hill, La.

April 9.—The brigade was ordered to report to General Banks at Pleasant Hill. By him it was ordered to the front to report to Brigadier-General Emory. General Emory ordered the brigade to relieve Brigadier-General McMillan's brigade in the extreme front. Heavy skirmishing was kept up for six hours, when the enemy appeared in force, and a severe engagement followed, in which the Second Brigade lost in killed and wounded 484 men.

April 10.—In the morning the brigade covered the retreat of the army.

April 11.—Reached Grand Ecore.

April 13.—Crossed Red River, and proceeded up on the opposite side a few miles above Campti to relieve the transports, hemmed in by a force of the enemy, consisting of 1,500 men and a battery of four guns.

April 14.—This effected, it returned to Grand Ecore, where it lay until the 20th.

April 20.—The brigade, with the remainder of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith's command, moved to Natchitoches, 4 miles distant, and remained there until the evening of the 21st.

April 22.—Moved out, falling in the rear of General Banks' army.

April 23.—The brigade was present at the engagement which took place at Cane River in the afternoon and morning of the 24th.

April 26.—The brigade reached Alexandria.

April 30.—The brigade is now protecting General Banks' army, whose principal business seems to be speculating in cotton and sugar.

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*From returns for March, April, and May.

Officers and men are heartily disgusted with this kind of service, and desire to be placed where they can act with honor to themselves and be of service to their country.

May 2.—Moved out on Natchitoches road some 4 miles to support the Thirteenth Army Corps, where it formed line and lay on arms until sunrise of the 3d.

May 3.—Moved across the country to the Opelousas road and out on the road some 8 miles near Governor Moore's plantation, where it formed line and commenced skirmishing with the enemy, driving them back during the day some 2½ miles. Skirmishing continued each succeeding day until the evening of the 8th, driving the enemy 7 miles, when we were ordered back to camp at Governor Moore's plantation.

May 9.—Were ordered some 4 miles to the rear and right to protect the approaches to Alexandria, between General Mower's forces and the Thirteenth Army Corps.

May 13.—In the evening the brigade marched to Governor Moore's plantation, joining General Smith's forces, which marched from there on the morning of the 14th, covering the retreat of General Banks' army.

May 15.—Arrived at Marksville at night.

May 16.—In the morning a heavy skirmish ensued, which resulted in driving the enemy entirely from the field. Skirmishing more or less severe occurred every day of the march until the 18th, when the advanced army had reached the Atchafalaya, the rear (General Smith) having crossed and lying near Yellow Bayou. On the forenoon of that day the enemy appeared in force in our rear, and this, with two other brigades, was ordered to recross the bayou and meet him. A severe engagement ensued against numbers largely superior to our own, while the balance of our army lay quietly 3 miles distant from the action. The fight lasted until 4.30 p. m., resulting in driving the enemy and capturing nearly 300 prisoners. This brigade lost in killed and wounded 48 men.

May 19.—The brigade lay in line of battle all day and until 2 a. m. of the 20th.

May 20.—Again crossed Yellow Bayou; marched to Atchafalaya; crossed and encamped on the opposite side.

May 21.—Marched to mouth of Red River.

May 22.—In the morning embarked on transports.

May 24.—Arrived at Vicksburg early in the morning.

No. 43.

Report of Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Newbold, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY,
On the Steamer Ewing, March 15, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with instructions from your headquarters I hasten to send you a list of the killed and wounded, and also a report of the part taken by the Fourteenth Iowa in the capture of Fort De Russy, March 14, 1864. On nearing the enemy, posted within his fortifications, two companies of my command, D and I, under Capt. W. C. Jones, Company I, were ordered to deploy as skirmishers to the right of the road, where the enemy's fortifications

were supposed to be situated. Much of the ground passed over was wet and swampy, yet the advance was in good order and without a halt, until they reached the outer works of the enemy, within 350 yards of the main fort. The enemy seeing this opened fire on them from the fort, which was returned with telling effect. This was the opening of the battle. I sent out another company, under Lieutenant King, Company K, which took position in the swamp on the left of the other skirmishers, and did good execution. These three companies, aided by one company of the Thirty-second Iowa, which had been ordered to report to Captain Jones, kept up such a destructive fire that it became impossible for the enemy to use his guns, consequently the artillery firing in that direction entirely ceased. I advanced the regiment, which had been posted a short distance in rear of the skirmishers, as you directed, when the firing became brisk on the extreme left of the line. The nature of the ground for a short distance was such as to break the line very much, but as soon as the open field was reached and the command forward was given by the officers, the regiment, joined by the skirmishers, dashed through the field into the ditch and clambered over the parapet into the fort with a shout that drowned the rattle of the enemy's musketry.

Officers and men acted nobly. None were killed. Below is a list* of the wounded, which I am happy to know is very small.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH H. NEWBOLD,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Fourteenth Iowa Vol. Infantry.

Col. WILLIAM T. SHAW,
Commanding Second Brigade.

No. 44.

Report of Capt. Warren C. Jones, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with instructions from your headquarters I herewith submit the following report of the part taken by the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry Volunteers in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864: The regiment moved out to the front with the brigade to which it was attached at a few minutes of 11 a. m., taking position upon a line parallel with an open field, the right resting upon a road immediately in rear of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery. Company I, under command of Second Lieut. G. H. Logan; Company K, under command of Capt. William J. Campbell, were deployed as skirmishers across the center of the field, their left resting upon the skirmish line of the Twenty-seventh Iowa. Skirmishing occurred at intervals until 4.30 p. m., when the enemy advanced, by a terrible cavalry charge, our skirmishers rallying in their appropriate places. The Twenty-fifth New York Battery fell back in rear of us. We reserved our fire until the enemy were in easy pistol range, when we opened fire upon them, which almost annihilated them, horses and riders rolling almost within our lines. This charge was followed by an advance of infantry in

* Nominal list (omitted) reports 6 wounded.

two lines, when the conflict became general. The enemy was repulsed in front with a heavy slaughter. The second line advanced upon our front and a line at right angles upon right flank, opening a terrible cross-fire. Our right was changed in the new direction to meet the new line. In this deadly cross-fire our lamented lieutenant-colonel, J. H. Newbold, fell from his horse mortally wounded, the ball passing through his body from the right breast, disabling his left arm. Here also fell Lieutenant Logan, Lieutenant McMillen, Lieutenant Shanklin, and Lieutenant Hazlett, officers beloved by all, nobly laying their bodies a bloody sacrifice upon their country's altar.* The long list† of casualties below clearly indicates the irreproachable bravery and indomitable will of the regiment.

Upon the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel Newbold I assumed command of the regiment, and I tender my most hearty thanks to the officers, commissioned, non-commissioned, and privates, for the gallant manner in which they sustained their reputation, gained upon the bloody fields of Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, De Russy, and Pleasant Hill. I withdrew the regiment with the rest of the brigade, by your order, at 6 p. m.

WARREN C. JONES,
Captain, Comdg. Fourteenth Regiment Iowa Infy. Vols.

Col. WILLIAM T. SHAW,
Commanding Second Brigade.

No. 45.

Report of Capt. Leroy A. Crane, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
In the Field, May 22, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Fourteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the battle of Bayou De Glaize, La., on the 18th day of May, 1864: After forming my command in line of battle under your direction, and being marched nearly to a belt of timber known as Old Oaks, I marched the regiment by the left flank, as you directed, into the timber to support the Ninth Indiana Battery. The enemy being repulsed I reformed on the main line on the right of a section of the Third Indiana Battery, and again advanced, under a heavy fire from the front and left, and drove the enemy out of the timber and across an open field, a distance of nearly a mile, when I was ordered to halt my command. No further advance was made during the day.

The conduct of both officers and men during the engagement, with very few exceptions, was good. The following is a list‡ of killed and wounded, as shown by reports of company commanders.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. A. CRANE,
Captain, Comdg. Fourteenth Iowa Vol. Infantry.

Col. W. T. SHAW.
Comdg. Second Brig., Third Div., 16th Army Corps.

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* Lieutenant Hazlett was not killed.
† Nominal list (omitted) shows 19 killed, 61 wounded, and 9 missing; total, 89.
‡ Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 killed and 13 wounded.

No. 46.

Reports of Col. James I. Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

Hdqrs. Twenty-seventh Regt. Iowa Vol. Infy.,
On Board Steamer Diadem, Alexandria, La., March 17, 1864.

Captain: In compliance with orders from headquarters Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to report that while on the march near the town of Marksville, La., on the 14th day of March, 1864, the Twenty-seventh Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry was ordered to halt in the town as provost guards until the army had passed through, after which we were to resume our march. When the column had moved by I assembled the guards and moved rapidly forward, keeping well closed up on the train just in my advance. When cannonading commenced the remainder of the brigade to which my regiment was attached were in the advance, having moved forward while we were on duty as provost guards in the town of Marksville. I immediately sent forward Lieutenant Peck, acting adjutant, to Colonel Shaw, commanding brigade, requesting him that I might be permitted to take my place in the brigade. Lieutenant Peck returned and reported to me that he had failed to find Colonel Shaw. I sent him a second time. The request was granted, and we were directed to move forward. We were ordered to relieve the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and moved up to do so, but at that moment a simultaneous charge was ordered. It was a long way to the fort (De Russy). The ground over which we must charge was well cleared of trees. Many logs lay on the ground, and several ditches were to be crossed. At the command, "Forward, double-quick, march!" the entire regiment sprang forward with a will, moving too rapidly at times for a long charge, but all the time under apparent good control. We sprang into the ditch on the east and south sides of the fort, and mounted the parapet in all haste. When the fort was surrendered a part of my regiment, with others of other regiments, joined in a fire of musketry, and with them united in a wild, ringing, vociferous yell of joy. It was the first time we had ever charged upon an enemy's works, and it has not been reported to me that any officer or soldier failed to do his duty and to do it well. Our list of casualties is as follows: Robert Beck, private, Company G, dangerously wounded in the left breast by accidental discharge of gun.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. I. GILBERT,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. T. Granger,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Hdqrs. Twenty-seventh Regt. Iowa Vol. Infy.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 11, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to report the following list of casualties in the Twenty-seventh Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers at the battle of Pleasant Hill, April 9, 1864, together with remarks:

About 10 a. m. we were ordered into line. Moved 1½ miles on the road to Shreveport and took position on the left center of the brigade,

in the advance line, relieving the Fifteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry. Our line was established in the edge of a thick wood. Our men were ordered to lie down. An open field lay to our front. Company B was immediately thrown out as skirmishers. Firing was quite brisk among the skirmishers until 3.30 p. m., the enemy's skirmishers appearing at times and falling back. At 3.30 p. m. the enemy advanced in force. Our skirmishers fought well until overpowered and driven in. Immediately they resumed their place in the regiment, when the enemy steadily approached in strong columns. At this point a bold cavalry charge was made by the enemy along the Shreveport road. Our men remained quiet until they had approached to within short range, when a full volley was fired into the rebel ranks. The effect was telling. Riders reeled and fell senseless. Horses were struck as dead as if a bolt of heaven had riven the very air. The scene was an appalling one. Scarcely a man who made that charge but met death on the spot. The enemy had moved up on the left of the advance line in strong force. The line had already broken away to the left, and news came from my left that the enemy was flanking us. Already they were firing in our rear. Several shots had taken effect in the ranks of Companies B and G. The enemy advanced in our front in solid columns. We met them with a determined fire. Volley after volley was fired into their ranks. For two hours the rattle of musketry was incessant and deafening. Several shot and a number of shell struck immediately by us, bursting and wounding a number of men. About 5.30 p. m. the order was given to retire, but was not received by me until other regiments had retired, leaving both flanks of my regiment greatly exposed. We fell back in good order and in line until the enemy was discovered to be flanking us, when the line was broken, and we escaped through a narrow passage, the enemy pouring a sharp fire upon both flanks, and closing in rapidly on our rear. At this point a large part of those reported in the following list were killed or wounded.* We immediately formed line in the rear of supporting column and awaited orders.

I am well pleased with the conduct of the men on that occasion. I would like to mention the names of some of the officers and soldiers who distinguished themselves, but all conducted themselves so bravely and so well that I refrain from mentioning any save Capt. J. M. Holbrook, Company F, who, after having received a severe wound, led his company with distinguished gallantry until a second severe wound was received, and the regiment had reformed in the rear of the supporting column.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully,

JAS. I. GILBERT,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. T. GRANGER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. TWENTY-SEVENTH REGT. IOWA VOL. INFY.,
Steamer Diadem, May 26, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the battle of Old Oaks, La., on

* Nominal list (omitted) reports 4 men killed, 5 officers and 65 men wounded, and 14 men missing; total, 88.

the 18th May, 1864: At about 11 a. m. the brigade to which my regiment was attached, commanded by Col. William T. Shaw, was ordered to move out by the right flank on the Marksville road, which lies parallel with Bayou De Glaize. The brigade moved about 1 mile up Bayou De Glaize, when they were ordered to form line of battle at right angles with the bayou. My post formed the right center of the brigade. We were ordered to advance in line, and moved forward about half a mile, when we were ordered to lie down. We were now about 500 yards in the rear of the advance line of battle. We staid in this position for the space of two hours, subjected meanwhile to the artillery fire of the enemy, which was very heavy. At 3 p. m. we were ordered to move by the left flank at a double-quick about 500 yards, when we formed a line perpendicularly to the rear of our former line, and at this point we were subjected to a very heavy fire from the small-arms of the enemy, but in about fifteen minutes succeeded in repulsing him. We then changed front again by moving by the right flank and filing right, and remained in this position nearly a half hour, when we were ordered to advance. We moved forward about 1,000 yards through a heavy piece of timber, driving the enemy before us, but as we came out on the open ground the enemy opened on us with grape and canister, forcing us to retire. We fell back to our former position in good order, considering the roughness of the ground and the thickness of the underbrush. We staid in this position about one-half hour, when we were ordered to fall back by the flank nearly a half mile, where we lay until sunset. We were then ordered back to the position occupied by the regiment the night before, where we lay all night. The loss of the regiment was 3 killed and 14 wounded. Officers and men of my command behaved with the greatest coolness and bravery. Where all did so well it is useless to particularize.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. I. GILBERT,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 47.

Reports of Col. John Scott, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. THIRTY-SECOND IOWA INFANTRY,
Steamer Southwester, near Fort De Russy, La., Mar. 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In relation to the part sustained by my command in the capture of Fort De Russy, on yesterday, I have the honor to report that when the attack commenced my regiment, preceded by the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, Third Indiana Battery, and Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, was approaching on the Marksville road, moving by the right flank and about 2 miles distant. I advanced in this manner as rapidly as was consistent with efficiency until within supporting distance of the battery, and formed line of battle, my left resting on the road. I was here met by Brigadier-General Mower, and ordered into position on the extreme right. To obtain a position partially covered from the fort by uneven ground inter-

vening, also some unfinished and unoccupied works, but exposed to the fire of the water battery, it was necessary to cross an open field. This was done under a heavy fire of shell and musketry, which fortunately was too high to be very destructive. One shell exploded in the ranks, killing 1 man and for a moment disabling others by the shock. Presently I ordered forward 12 men to act as sharpshooters, and soon after advanced three companies from my right for the same purpose. While in this position I was ordered, on hearing heavy firing on my left, to advance the command, open fire, and take such cover as I could find within short range of the works, but not to storm them. In obeying this order I soon discovered that the works were to be entered at once. Officers and men dashed forward with shouts into the ditch, over the parapet, and into the fort. In this advance 2 men were wounded, 1 very dangerously, 1 severely. While all behaved well, many acted with conspicuous gallantry. Their highest compliment is in the words of the prisoners: "The men on the right took the fort."

With devout thankfulness that the list is so short I append statement of casualties.*

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient,

JOHN SCOTT,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. T. GRANGER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRTY-SECOND IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: In relation to the engagement at Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant, and the matters intimately connected therewith, I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 7th instant, moving from Grand Ecore, according to the order of the march for that day my regiment was in the rear of the brigade. Everything progressed satisfactorily until about 2 p. m., when we encountered the headquarters train of Major-General Banks, entirely blocking the way and hindering our progress. The wagons were overloaded, and were said to contain articles ranging in weight from paper collars to iron bedsteads. In this manner two brigades, including artillery and trains, were delayed more than four hours in the midst of heavy rain-storms. Finally the troops passed by in an effort to reach the assigned camping-ground before dark, but failed, and camped 2 miles short of the proper position, subsistence and camp equipage not coming up until the night was far advanced.

On the 8th, we moved forward 20 miles, and camped near Pleasant Hill at sunset. For several hours had heard heavy artillery some miles in advance. During the night our camp was overrun with stragglers from the front, who circulated the wildest stories of disaster and loss of men, artillery, and trains.

On the morning of the 9th, these were repeated and exaggerated. The road was seen to be filled with teams crowding to the rear. Evidences of past defeat and prospective retreat were everywhere visible. These were the moral surroundings as my command was moved to the extreme front, and took position in line of battle at 10

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 killed and 2 wounded.

a. m., relieving a portion of the Nineteenth Corps. My position in line, being on the extreme left of the brigade, was supported on the right by the other regiments of the brigade, and more immediately by the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry. My left, for some reason still unknown to me, was without support, though threatened, and might be considered a key to the whole position. I rested in the edge of a woods in the rear of an old field, which extended for a mile to my front, and across which my skirmishers occasionally exchanged shots with the enemy's pickets throughout the dav, but without casualty to my command. Our line was at right angles to the Mansfield road, and about 1 mile from the village of Pleasant Hill. About 4 p. m. the activity of the enemy's skirmishers increased, and in a short time he advanced across the open space in our front in heavy force, moving in column by battalion, deploying as he advanced. My skirmishers were recalled, and my left company, which had been thrown forward and to the left to cover my exposed flank, was forced back with some loss, and took its proper position in the line. The fire of my command was reserved until the enemy was within easy range, and when opened was so destructive that he faltered, passed to my left and through the open space to my rear, losing heavily by the fire of my left wing as he passed, but threatening to cut off my command from our main forces. I at once sent information to my superior and to the commander of the troops on my immediate right of this peril to the whole line, but without orders to abandon my position, though very critical, I could do nothing but change the front of my extreme left to face the new danger, and protect my flank and rear, if possible. This was done, and a well-directed fire kept up to the front and left, which kept the enemy at bay.

Mean time he was steadily pouring his columns past my left, and working across the rear of my position, so that in a short time the battle was in full force far in my rear. In this state of affairs I discovered that all the troops on my right had been withdrawn, taking with them a portion of my right wing. Lieutenant-Colonel Mix, in charge of the right wing, and Captain Miller, commanding Company B, on my extreme right, fell fatally wounded. My attention had been chiefly directed to the front and left, as the exposed directions, and I only came to a knowledge of the retrograde of the right when the first three companies were already gone. The timber and undergrowth were such that I could not observe my whole line from any one point. The movement was promptly checked, but the ground thus left vacant was promptly occupied by the enemy, and a destructive fire opened upon us from a new direction, rendering it necessary that it should be met by a new line, which was done. My lines now faced in three directions. I was completely enveloped, without orders, and virtually in the hands of the enemy, had he dared to close in and overwhelm us with his masses now around us. This was my position until after sunset, by which time the enemy had left my front, passing now by my right to the rear, where the fight was still raging, and observing by the fire and the cheers of our men that he had been forced back on the left, and that our forces in that direction could not be distant, I moved by the left flank about 200 yards to the left and rear, where I met and joined our most advanced troops. My brave men were nearly out of ammunition, which for the past hour had been well husbanded. They were exhausted, but not dismayed, and felt that the battle-field was ours. I

inclose a list of the killed, wounded, and missing, a total of 210, which I desire may be considered a part of this report.*

Owing to all parties from my command being unable to pass the picket-lines during the night to visit the wounded still upon the field, and then compelled to abandon them very unexpectedly in the morning, there is a degree of uncertainty in relation to the casualties that is extremely embarrassing and painful. I fear the number of fatal casualties will exceed the number stated, and that of those marked "missing" many are killed or wounded. From an early period of the action our position was such that disabled men seeking the hospital would necessarily fall into the hands of the enemy in our rear. Lieut. Col. Edward H. Mix fell at his post, cheering and encouraging the command by his example. The same was the glorious fate of Capt. Amos B. Miller. In them, as also in Capt. Hubert F. Peebles. Capt. Michael Ackerman, First Lieut. John Devine, all dangerously wounded, and First Lieut. Thomas O. Howard, fatally wounded, I mourn the loss of good men as well as gallant soldiers. The record of others is found in casualty list, and in the body of this report. To Captain Jonathan Hutchison my especial thanks are due, not only for his gallant conduct, but also for repressing reckless exposure among the men of the command, and thus saving valuable lives. His son, a youth of much promise, was killed by his side early in the action.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SCOTT,
Colonel Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, Comdg. Regt.

Col. WILLIAM T. SHAW,
Commanding Brigade.

No. 48.

Report of Maj. Gustavus A. Eberhart, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-SECOND IOWA INFANTRY,
Steamer Southwester, May 23, 1864.

SIR: In relation to the part taken by my command in the action on Bayou De Glaize, on the 18th instant, I have the honor to report that at 10 a. m. my regiment was ordered forward with the brigade to engage the enemy. In the brigade we occupied the position of Third Battalion; on the right, Twenty-seventh Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri, on the left, Fourteenth Iowa.

During the first part of the action, being in the second line, we were under a heavy fire from artillery. Some guns from Third and Ninth Indiana Batteries being thrown forward on the left, the Fourteenth Iowa was detached as support. A few minutes after, the cavalry on the left, being pressed very heavily, gave way, permitting the enemy to bring a heavy force against the left. At this time I received orders to move by the left flank into the woods; but the enemy having advanced so rapidly as the batteries came out, Brigadier-General Mower in person gave me orders to change front by filing the battalion to the left, which was done in time to meet the attack. Being at the left of the battalion I found the right to have been detached from the Twenty-seventh Iowa and moved back to a ditch, forming an oblique line toward the enemy. This, I have

* See addenda to Smith's report, p. 313.

since understood, was done by orders given by an officer belonging to Brigadier-General Mower's staff, but without my knowledge. The enemy was repulsed after a brisk action of ten or fifteen minutes. We were afterward thrown forward into the woods, but were not again under fire. Owing to the intense heat and necessary rapidity of our movements, many of the men were entirely exhausted and had to be carried from the field. Officers and men conducted themselves in a creditable manner during the engagement. I send herewith a list of casualties.*

G. A. EBERHART,
Major, Commanding Thirty-second Iowa Infantry.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 49.

Reports of Maj. Robert W. Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, of the capture of Fort De Russy and engagements at Pleasant Hill and Yellow Bayou.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH MISSOURI INFANTRY VOLS.,
On board Sioux City, near Alexandria, La., March 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders received this date from brigade headquarters, I beg leave to make the following report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Missouri Volunteers in the attack upon and capture of Fort De Russy on the 14th instant: At or about 4 o'clock of the 14th instant the Twenty-fourth Missouri was ordered up on double-quick, with instructions from the brigade commander to form on the left of the road and take position so as to protect the battery (Third Indiana). In this position we remained until the Third Indiana had exhausted all their ammunition, and the Ninth Indiana Battery was brought up to relieve them, at which time Brigadier-General Mower ordered us to fix bayonets and advance in line of battle. This order was obeyed, until arriving at the edge of the timber in front of the west side of the fort, where the regiment was halted sufficiently long to correctly align it, when it was ordered to charge bayonets, an order that was obeyed not only with promptitude but with the utmost furor. Not a halt was made until our colors were planted on the walls and the fort surrendered. The Twenty-fourth Missouri claims its colors were first on the wall, and it the first inside the fortifications.

Our loss was 1 killed, 1 mortally wounded, 4 severely wounded, and 7 slightly wounded. Where every man did his duty it would be impossible to make distinctions.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FYAN,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. T. GRANGER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Brigade.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders received I respectfully furnish the following report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Mis-

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 killed and 7 wounded.

souri Volunteers in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: At or about 8.30 a. m. the regiment moved out of camp and advanced with the brigade upon the enemy. The brigade commander ordered the regiment to take position upon the right of the Twenty-fifth New York Battery and support the same. Our position was a very strong one. Immediately upon getting into line I deployed Company A, under Lieutenant Mullings, as skirmishers, on the right flank and some 100 paces in front of the right of the regiment. This company was engaged with the skirmishers of the enemy until 12 m., when the officer commanding reported the enemy to be extending his line for the purpose of flanking our right or cutting us off. I sent forward Company B to assist A, and refilled the boxes of A with cartridges. These companies were engaged until about 4.30, when the enemy opened with artillery upon the battery on the left of the regiment (Twenty-fifth New York). In a very short time the battery we were supporting retreated. The enemy shelled the timber in our rear some minutes after our battery left the ground, wounding 4 of the regiment badly. A force of rebel cavalry consisting of some 350 then charged upon us. We let them advance within 50 paces before a gun was fired, when we poured a volley upon them and threw them in confusion. Ordering the men to reload we continued firing until we literally annihilated them. As the few that remained retreated the artillery of the enemy again opened upon us with grape, canister, and shell, and continued firing some ten minutes, when I observed their infantry advancing massed in column upon us. Such was our position that I felt satisfied we could successfully repel any force brought against us in front. As the advance column of the enemy reached the hill in front I ordered the regiment to fire. It responded as one man. I then ordered a charge on the staggered column. As we rushed on with cheers they gave back. Finding we had cleared the hill, I recalled the regiment to its original position. Again and again did the enemy press our front, and we fought each other at 15 paces. Every effort made by them resulted in their discomfiture. At length they appeared upon our right flank in force, and poured volley after volley upon us. Exposed as the regiment was to a heavy cross-fire against such numbers I ordered them to fall back, which they did disputing every foot. At the open field in rear of the timber the regiment reformed, and here we lost the most of our men. The color-sergeant was shot down, when Corporal Young seized the colors, and he too fell. Corporal Baker then took and retained possession of the colors during the balance of the time we were engaged in the fight. Our ammunition being expended I withdrew the regiment until the colonel commanding brigade reformed the brigade and issued ammunition, assigning us position on the right of the brigade, where we remained under arms until ordered to march in the morning. We went into action with 1 field officer, 1 acting adjutant, and 9 line officers, and 400 men. Our loss is as follows: Killed, 9; wounded, 70; wounded and missing, 10; missing, 7; total, 96. Every officer and man in the regiment obeyed orders implicitly and did his duty fearlessly and as an American soldier.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBT. W. FYAN,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. T. GRANGER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH MISSOURI INFANTRY VOLS.,
Mouth of Red River, May 21, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to orders received, the Twenty-fourth Missouri Volunteers moved out with the brigade on the morning of the 18th instant, and formed line of battle near Bayou De Glaize, on the right of the brigade, remaining in that position until ordered forward to support the First Missouri Artillery.* On moving near the point designated I found the battery limbered up and going to the rear, leaving one gun that appeared to be disabled by having all its horses killed.

Captain Sample, assistant adjutant-general First and Third Divisions, ordered the regiment to take position on the left of the gun, the right of the regiment near the road next the bayou, and the left not quite against the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry Volunteers. In this position we waited the advance of the rebels, who could be distinctly seen moving forward in line of battle. As they were crossing the open field in front of us we received orders to advance, which we did, opening a destructive fire on the enemy, driving them before us until we were recalled by reason, as we understood, of the left of our line being outflanked. Falling back to our original position, we lay under a very heavy artillery fire until the enemy again made appearance in much heavier force. Their line extended to the bayou, and they were suffered to approach until they had passed the field, and were coming on, apparently confident they would meet with no resistance, when General Mower ordered us to charge, which the regiment did in gallant style. The first fire we gave the enemy the two regiments on their left broke and fled, and the Twenty-fourth Missouri were flanking the Fifteenth Texas, with every reason to believe we could have captured them, as they were throwing down their arms and giving up as we were closing in, when we received an order, the second time, to fall back, which we did, carrying our prisoners with us. In falling back we were under very heavy artillery fire, and after we reached our original position they continued pouring shot and shell into us. Late in the evening we were ordered back, and fell in with our brigade as they returned to camp. Several of the regiment were seen struck, and our casualties were 2 killed and 13 wounded. Where every officer and soldier did his whole duty it would be impossible to make distinctions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. FYAN,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 50.

Reports of Capt. James M. Cockefair, Third Indiana Battery.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INDIANA BATTERY,
Steamer Sioux City, March 20, 1864.

COLONEL: At about 3.30 p. m. on the 14th instant, while on the road running from the little town of Marksville, La., to Fort De Russy, on Red River, my battery was ordered forward on double-

*Battery M.

quick to open fire on that fortification, which was immediately done. The whole battery was put in position at about 800 yards from the outermost works of the fort (looking in the direction from which we came), at right angles to and on the road which we went in on, and just in a woods, with about 300 yards of cleared space between the woods and the enemy's works. The firing was commenced by us at 4.15 p. m., and was immediately replied to by the enemy, with two 24-pounders, one 7-inch rifled, and two 26-pounder smooth-bores (iron), and was kept up with spirit on both sides until 6 o'clock. The officers and men of my command did their duty well, and behaved with commendable courage throughout the whole action; we fired near 400 rounds. Casualties in killed and wounded were, Private Charles T. Berkau, severely wounded in the head by a piece of shell, and 2 artillery horses disabled.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES M. COCKEFAIR,
Captain Third Indiana Battery.

Col. W. T. SHAW,
Commanding Brigade.

CAMP THIRD INDIANA BATTERY LIGHT ARTY.,
Near Grand Ecore, La., April 18, 1864.

GENERAL: In compliance with your circular of the 17th instant, in relation to the operations of the Third Indiana Battery Light Artillery, since it left Alexandria, La., I beg leave to make the following report, viz: On the morning of the 26th of March, 1864, the battery, in company with the army, left Alexandria and marched overland to a point on Red River about 22 miles above Alexandria, arriving there at about 4 p. m. on the 27th following. March 29, embarked on transports Sioux City and William L. Ewing at Bayou Cotile Landing, Red River, and on the 2d of April following left the same with the fleet of the Red River expedition and proceeded up Red River. April 3, arrived at Grand Ecore Landing, disembarked, and encamped near the same. April 7, 7.30 a. m., left camp and marched to Pleasant Hill, La., distance 38 miles, arriving near the same 6.30 p. m. on April 8. April 9, left camp at 8.30 a. m. and marched to Pleasant Hill, and was engaged in the action with the enemy at that place on the same day. Had 3 men slightly wounded in the same. Remained on the battle-field until 3 a. m. of the 10th instant, when we received orders to retreat to this place, where we arrived at about sundown of the 11th instant. On the 15th of this month a foraging party from my company, consisting of 12 men, all mounted, started in company with others across the river from this, and when about 3 miles from the same they were surprised and surrounded by a party of the enemy's troops. Loss on my part, 6 men, 10 horses, 10 saddles, 10 bridles, 10 halters, and 10 blankets. Six of the men of my party with 2 horses succeeded in making good their escape and arriving safely in camp.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES M. COCKEFAIR,
Captain Third Indiana Battery Light Arty., Comdg.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery.

No. 51.

Report of Lieut. Thomas J. Ginn, Third Indiana Battery, of engagement at Yellow Bayou.

Headquarters Third Indiana Battery,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 24, 1864.

Sir: In compliance with your order of this date I have the honor to report as follows concerning the part taken by my command, the Third Indiana Battery, in the action with the enemy at Old Oaks, La., on the 18th instant, viz: Early in the morning of that day I was ordered by Brigadier-General Mower to take the two James rifled guns belonging to the battery into action against the enemy, who were then attacking our forces on a road leading along Yellow Bayou. I went into action with the guns mentioned at about 8 a. m. in the day, opening fire on the enemy at a distance of about 1¼ miles and continuing the same at the same range steadily for about one hour and a half, when I withdrew the guns out of reach of the enemy's fire in consequence of having exhausted all the long-range ammunition belonging to them, my instructions not allowing me to go any farther. During this time the enemy opposed us with rifled guns, throwing projectiles of our own manufacture (3-inch rifled) at us, making good shots at our position. In this action my command behaved commendably, and I have reason to believe did good execution on the enemy's forces opposed to us. Toward noon of the same day I was ordered to bring forward the remainder of the battery, consisting of two 12-pounder smooth-bores and two 6-pounder smooth-bores. These guns were halted for perhaps one hour and a half in an open field, a few hundred yards to the rear of the center of the line of our forces. Our forces were by this time more or less engaged all along the whole extent of their line. At about 1.30 p. m. I was ordered to bring forward the 12-pounders and take a position in the edge of a wood on the left of our forces, which had just been vacated by the Ninth Indiana Battery Light Artillery. We here immediately opened fire upon the enemy with shot and shell at a distance of nearly 2,000 yards, and which we had kept up but a short time when the enemy made a heavy charge upon our forces in that part of the field, threatening their left flank seriously. I immediately turned my guns upon the advancing columns of the enemy, and that, too, with double charges of canister-shot at a distance of not over 350 yards. At most the effect of our fire here was splendid and contributed greatly to the defeat and discomfiture of the enemy. I was soon compelled to retire these two guns, as the whole line of our forces in that part of the field fell back a few hundred yards before the charge of the enemy mentioned. In the mean time I had ordered up one of my James rifled guns, with a new supply of long-range ammunition, and with the five guns of my command now on the field went into battery just in the edge of the woods, where I had found the center of the line of battle of our forces on first coming into action. Nothing more of any importance occurred in my command that day. I remained on the field with the five guns until late in the evening, when we were relieved and fell back with the Second Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, to a position several hundred yards to the rear of the line of battle. During the day we fired about 150

rounds of ammunition. I have to report no casualty of any kind in my command that day, nor any loss except the expenditure of ammunition and wear of material consequent upon hard service. My command deserves credit for their conduct during the whole.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. GINN,
First Lieut., Third Indiana Battery, Comdg. Company.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 52.

Report of Col. Risdon M. Moore, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the part my command took in the battle of Pleasant Hill. On the night of the 8th of April my brigade was encamped on the left of the main road leading from Natchitoches to Pleasant Hill, and about 1 mile east of the latter place. At 2 a. m. the morning of the 9th, the brigade was ordered under arms, and at 4 a. m. I received an order to send one regiment to picket a road about three-fourths of a mile to our left. I sent the One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry to perform this duty. It was moved from the position assigned it at 2 p. m. a half a mile to the extreme left, and 4 p. m. the regiment was again moved, ordered to cover three roads immediately on the left of the line of battle, in which position it remained until the battle was over. The regiment was not in the action, and no casualties. At 9 a. m., in obedience to orders from division headquarters, I moved the Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry and One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry and Third Indiana Battery, temporarily assigned to my command, 1 mile west into an open field and formed them into column of regiments, with the battery between, the right resting on the road. In that position they remained until 2 p. m., when the Third Indiana Battery was relieved by the Ninth Indiana Battery, which was placed in position on an elevated spot on the left of the road, with the One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry on the left supporting it, and the Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry immediately in the rear. At 4 p. m. I moved the Forty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteers forward on the double-quick about 100 yards in front of the One hundred and seventy-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, and formed them in line of battle. In a few minutes afterward the enemy came rushing on the field in pursuit of a regiment which had been posted in our front all day. As my command and the battery which I was supporting could not open on the enemy on account of this retreating regiment, and the battery belonging to the Nineteenth Corps being in our front, I instructed the commanders of regiments to cause their men to lie down. This was scarcely done when the enemy, advancing on a furious charge, fired into my command, whereupon both regiments

arose and delivered their fire. At this time my command suffered most severely, being exposed at the same time to a murderous fire of musketry and artillery, at short range, grape, shell, and spherical case being freely used. This caused my command momentarily to waver. This was speedily checked and a charge ordered, when my command advanced on the double-quick on the enemy, and drove them rapidly back across the field, a distance of half a mile, in fifteen minutes. Near the woods at a deep ditch the enemy resisted very stubbornly, but they were soon driven back in confusion. My command entered the woods with the One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Volunteers on the left of the Forty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Both regiments continued to advance, and the Forty-ninth Regiment captured two pieces of artillery with caissons, said to belong to Nims' battery. After my command had proceeded a quarter of a mile it was halted by Capt. J. B. Sample, assistant adjutant-general First and Third Divisions, to prevent our forces from being cut off by the enemy, who were making a flank movement to the right. I halted the command, when a furious fire was opened upon us by musketry and artillery. I then moved the command to the right and rear, and formed it on the left of the Third Brigade, First Division. It had in the mean time become quite dark. One more general charge was made, in which my command participated. The enemy now gave way rapidly and the firing ceased. My command was then formed on the left of the battle-field, in which position it remained for two hours, when it was ordered forward 2½ miles. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 10th I was ordered to be ready to move at a moment's notice. At 3 a. m. my command was ordered to return to Grand Ecore. During the action both officers and men of the regiments under my command behaved well. Thanks are due to my staff officers, who rendered me valuable assistance. The casualties which occurred in the two regiments in the action have been previously furnished.*

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. MOORE,
Colonel 117th Illinois Volunteers, Comdg.

Capt. J. B. Sample,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., 1st and 3d Divs., 16th Army Corps.

No. 53.

Report of Maj. Thomas W. Morgan, Forty-ninth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

Hdqrs. Forty-ninth Regt. Ill. Vet. Vol. Infy.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Lieutenant: I have the honor to report that on the 7th instant, in accordance with orders from headquarters Third Brigade, my command took up the line of march on road leading from this place to Shreveport, La. On evening of 8th, camped near Pleasant Hill. On morning of the 9th, was in line of battle at an early hour. About 9 o'clock advanced about 1 mile to Pleasant Hill, and took position in the open field with the right resting on the road. There was no change during the day until about 4 o'clock, when the enemy

* Embodied in addenda to Smith's report, p. 313.

in heavy force hotly engaged the Second Brigade, in position directly in front of my command. In a few moments the Forty-ninth was ordered forward double-quick and took position in rear of Second Brigade, exposed to a murderous fire and unable to return it on account of a portion of Second Brigade being in our front. The regiment laid down and remained in line in that position until the line in front was driven back and the enemy advancing rapidly, when, being unsupported, my command was forced to fall back a short distance and rallied on the right of the One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry. A charge was now ordered along the line, and my command charged across the open field, driving the enemy before it, entering the timber, capturing 2 pieces of artillery and 100 prisoners, and proceeded to an open field about 1½ miles beyond the point of attack. At this point the enemy attacked my right flank and forced me to fall back to a point in the open field, where I reformed with the remainder of the brigade and again advanced to the edge of the timber. It was now dark and firing had ceased. During the engagement both officers and men of my command acted with the utmost coolness and bravery. Below is a list of the casualties of my command.*

Respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant, sir,

THOS. W. MORGAN,
Major, Comdg. Forty-ninth Regt. Illinois Infy.

Lieut. S. H. DENEEN, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 54.

Report of Lieut. Col. Jonathan Merriam, One hundred and seventeenth Illinois Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. 117TH REGT. ILLINOIS INFANTRY VOLS.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the part my command took in the battle of Pleasant Hill. At 4 a. m. of the 9th of April, 1864, I took position, by order of the division commander, upon the left to prevent a supposed movement to turn our left. Some time after sunrise I was ordered to join the brigade, then just leaving camp, which order was obeyed. Shortly after I received an order to return immediately to my former position, where I remained until 2 o'clock in the day. From this position I was moved a half mile farther to the extreme left on a main road, which I was specially instructed to guard and hold. Shortly after reaching this new position the battle of Pleasant Hill commenced. As the fight became heavier on the left I was ordered by General Mower to cover three roads immediately upon the left of the line of battle. I disposed of my command upon these roads so as to protect them from any contemplated attack. Here I remained until the engagement ended. As no demonstrations were made on that part of the line, the regiment did not become engaged.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,

J. MERRIAM,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. 117th Illinois Infantry.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS, *Adjutant-General U. S. Army.*

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 8 men killed, 1 officer and 29 men wounded, and 11 men missing.

No. 55.

Report of Col. Edward Wehler, One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Infantry, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HEADQUARTERS 178TH NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the regiment under my command in the action near Pleasant Hill, La., on the 9th instant: The regiment was marched from its camp near the road in the forenoon of that day, about a mile to the front, and there placed in position, its right resting on the road. It thus remained, with slight alterations, until about 4 p. m., when the enemy attacked and overthrew the troops in front and drove them back upon the reserves. This attack was sudden and the advance of the enemy most rapid. A regiment lying a short distance in front of my command rose suddenly when the enemy appeared, turned, and broke. Momentarily the panic was communicated to my command, which fell back in considerable confusion for a few paces, when by the exertions of the officers the men rallied and at once advanced upon the enemy with the other regiments of the brigade. Part of a battery which had been placed in our front had fallen into the hands of the enemy, but there his farther advance was checked. The battery was recovered by a spirited charge of the brigade, in which my command took part, and the enemy driven back despite a determined resistance. This pursuit was continued across the open fields, immediately in front, into the woods, for a distance of nearly 2 miles. The regiment remained there until darkness put a stop to the fighting, when it was ordered to the edge of the woods, from where it was shortly afterward again marched to the front on the road, remaining by the same a distance in advance during the night. The officers and men under my command behaved well, and it would be injustice to name a few where all deserve praise.

I beg to refer to the annexed list of casualties,* and remain,

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD WEHLER,
Colonel 178th New York Volunteers, Comdg.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL U. S. ARMY.

No. 56.

Reports of Brig. Gen. T. Kilby Smith, U. S. Army, commanding Provisional Division, Seventeenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Red River Expedition, Fort De Russy, March 16, 1864.

GENERAL: Agreeably to your request I have the honor to transmit unofficially brief statement of progress of the naval forces and General A. J. Smith's command in the Red River expedition to present date, 12 m.: The fleet of transports sailed from Vicksburg at 7 p. m. on Thursday, 10th instant. The detachment I have the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 men killed, 5 officers and 17 men wounded, and 7 men missing.

honor to command embarked on steamers Hastings, Autocrat, John Raine, and Diana. Arrived at the mouth of Red River and reported to Admiral Porter on Friday at noon. Saturday, 10 a. m., sailed up Red River and Atchafalaya, under orders and signals from flagship Black Hawk, to Simsport. Morning of Sunday debarked my own command for inspection, review, and drill by regiments. At 7 p. m. received marching orders and at 8 p. m. marched, bringing up the rear of the column; repaired bridges through the night. Roads for the most part bad and swampy, and bivouacked at 4 a. m. Monday, 8 miles from Simsport. Meanwhile General A. J. Smith, with General Mower's command, had reconnoitered the front, driven four regiments of the enemy from a fortification situate some 5 miles from Simsport, and was heading across country for Moreauville, on Bayou De Glaize. Gave my troops rest two hours. At 6 o'clock took up the line of march, moving forward rapidly till 11 o'clock, when I halted, ordered coffee for the men, and fed the animals. Meanwhile pioneers were reconstructing bridge by the enemy destroyed. At noon resumed march, which till this time had led us for the most part through a rich and highly cultivated country, past extensive corn-fields and sugar-houses. Now crossing the bayou and penetrating a swamp for a few miles, we suddenly emerged in one of the most beautiful prairies imaginable, high table-land, gently undulating, watered by little lakes, with occasional groves, the landscape dotted with tasteful houses, gardens, and shrubberies. This prairie, called Avoyelles, is settled exclusively by French emigrants, many of whom, as our army passed, sought shelter under the tricolor of France. Pushing forward rapidly we gained Marksville at 5.30 p. m. Deserters had warned us that the enemy were on our left flank and rear as early as 3 o'clock. My troops were well closed. Two and a half miles beyond Marksville, at 5.30, I formed line of battle, my right resting immediately on the left of the advanced forces; transportation and ambulances parked far to the rear. As my command came to front brisk musketry firing commenced at the fort; some shells fell to the rear and right of my line. I was ordered by the general commanding to look well to my rear and left wing, that I might anticipate attack from Walker with 6,000 Texans. At 6.30 news was brought me that the fort had surrendered. I threw out heavy pickets, stacked arms, and went into bivouac.

In summary, I may remark that on the 14th instant the command marched 28½ miles, built a substantial bridge, 60 feet in length, repaired minor ones, and took a fort between sunrise and sunset. But one brigade (Col. W. C. Ward's [W. T. Shaw's ?], of Mower's command) was actively engaged. Their casualties were 2 killed, 33 wounded. The substantial results, 334 prisoners, 24 officers (from lieutenant-colonel to third lieutenant), large amount of commissary and ordnance, and ordnance stores, as per schedule I have the honor to transmit herewith. I also inclose draught* of fortifications and topographical map* of country immediately circumjacent. Meanwhile convoy and fleet had made slow and devious way through the tortuous windings of the Red, whose navigation at present stage of water is difficult. Rapid current, frequent eddies, sharp bends, and snags are the natural obstacles. To these the enemy had added rafts and spiles. As the fort surrendered the Black Hawk rounded to, and shortly afterward the general commanding received the congratula-

* Not found.

tions of the admiral, who he will compliment by present of the 9-inch piece of the Indianola and the pieces of the Harriet Lane, recaptured. The quartermaster has no paint, however, and we shall not be able to repeat the inscriptions of Haynes' Bluff.

My command is in occupation of the fort, and will be engaged to-day and to-morrow in the demolition of the casemates, bridges, &c., and finally the blowing up of the magazine. The main body, under the command of General Mower, convoyed by Admiral Porter, sailed last night for Alexandria, where I expect to join them in three days. General A. J. Smith remains with me; also the gunboat Benton, Captain Greer. My command is in excellent health and fine spirits; deserve compliment for their steadiness, discipline, and marching qualities. Dispatch-boat waits my orders. I write hurriedly, or rather dictate from horseback. Shall hope to send you good account of my stewardship.

I meanwhile have the honor to be, with highest respect, your obedient servant and friend,

THOS. KILBY SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MCPHERSON,
Comdg. Seventeenth Army Corps, Vicksburg.

P. S.—I send Colonel Nale with prisoners and dispatches to Baton Rouge. Opportunity permitting, he will make written reports, filing them on his return.

Haste,

T. K. S.

[Inclosure.]

SCHEDULE OF CAPTURED PROPERTY.

24-pounder guns and carriages (en barbette)	2
6-pounder iron smooth-bore carriages (en barbette)	2
9-inch Dahlgren gun and chassis (casemate)	1
9-inch Dahlgren guns and chassis (en barbette)	2
32-pounder smooth-bore gun and chassis, 1827 (en barbette)	1
32-pounder rifled gun (en barbette)	1
32-pounder carronades	2

Small-arms.

Enfield rifles	55
Smooth-bore muskets (Harper's Ferry)	45
Smooth-bore muskets (Springfield)	72
Whitney rifle	1

Magazine.

Solid shot	986
Spherical case	348
Shell	282
Stands of grape	97
Stands of canister	28
24-pounder gun cartridges (en barbette)	110
Cartridges for 32-pounder gun	150
Cannon powder (pounds)	1,850
Friction primers	1,000
.58-caliber elongated ball cartridges	20,000
.68-caliber buck and ball	12,000

Col. W. T. Shaw commanded the advance, Second Brigade, Third Division. Our loss, 9 killed, 42 wounded. Confederate loss, 2 killed, 8 wounded.

HDQRS. DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
On Steamer Hastings, Grand Ecore, La., April 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I respectfully submit the following report, in accordance with orders from General A. J. Smith, commanding Red River expedition: On the 7th instant I received the following order and letter of instructions from General A. J. Smith:

HEADQUARTERS RED RIVER EXPEDITION,
On Steamer Clara Bell, April 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. K. SMITH,
Comdg. Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will take charge of the river transportation belonging to the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, and will conduct it to the mouth of Loggy Bayou, opposite Springfield, at the foot of Lake Cannisnia, and will then, after a careful reconnaissance toward Springfield, disembark one regiment and push it forward to Bayou Pierre, and hold the bridge at that point. On arriving at Mansfield I will endeavor to communicate with you at Springfield, and it may be send for supplies. From Mansfield you will receive further orders in regard to your movement toward Shreveport.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

With the letter of instructions I received a verbal order from General Smith to communicate with Rear-Admiral Porter previous to starting, and intimation to consult with him during the progress of the fleet. In obedience to orders, on the 7th of April, I embarked my command on the following steam-boats: Hastings, Emerald, W. L. Ewing, Thomas E. Tutt, and the Sioux City, and the following boats reported to me for orders: Clara Bell, Liberty, Hamilton, J. H. Lacy, Mars, Des Moines, Adriatic, Southwester, and Diadem, and issued the following order:

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 21. HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Steamer Hastings, Grand Ecore, La., April 7, 1864.

I. The fleet will be prepared to sail at 11 a. m. in the following order: 1, Hastings; 2, Clara Bell; 3, Emerald; 4, W. L. Ewing; 5, Liberty; 6, Hamilton; 7, J. H. Lacy; 8, Thomas E. Tutt; 9, Sioux City; 10, Mars; 11, Des Moines; 12, Adriatic; 13, Southwester; 14, Diadem.

The same orders and signals as heretofore will be enforced and strictly followed.

Col. J. B. Moore, commanding First Brigade, will furnish a company, properly officered, to each of the following boats as a guard: Clara Bell, Liberty, Hamilton, and J. H. Lacy. Col. L. M. Ward, commanding Second Brigade, will furnish a like guard to the steamers Mars, Des Moines, Adriatic, Southwester, and Diadem.

The officers in command of the guard will be held strictly accountable for the conduct of their men. The guard to be divided into proper reliefs, and must not take off their accouterments while on guard. None of the transports will land or troops debark, except by order of the commanding general or brigade commanders.

* * * * * * *

At 1 p. m. the fleet sailed and arrived at Campti at 5 p. m., when the following order was issued:

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22. HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Campti, La., April 7, 1864.

I. Whenever the fleet lands for the night, Col. J. B. Moore, commanding First Brigade, will throw out a strong picket on the bank, covering the fleet from the steamer Hastings to the steamer Thomas E. Tutt. Col. L. M. Ward, commanding Second Brigade, will establish a like picket, covering all the fleet in rear of the steamer Thomas E. Tutt, his line joining that of Colonel Moore. The pickets will be posted under the direction of the brigade officer of the day. The pickets will be instructed to come in at the signal for starting—one long whistle.

II. The order of march is modified as follows: Clara Bell will move in the extreme rear of the fleet, under convoy of the gun-boat Chillicothe, and will report to the commanding officer of the same for orders.

III. The following boats that have not reported for orders will sail immediately in rear of the fleet in the following order: 1, Rob Roy; 2, Iberville; 3, John Warner; 4, Universe; 5, Colonel Cowles; 6, Meteor.

IV. The Black Hawk, General Banks' headquarters boat, will move immediately in rear of the steamer Hastings and as consort. Lieut. A. J. Boyington, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteers, will report with his company on board steamer Black Hawk as guard till further orders.

V. Col. J. B. Moore, commanding First Brigade, will furnish each of the following boats with a guard of at least 25 men, under command of a commissioned officer: Rob Roy, Iberville, John Warner, and Universe. Col. L. M. Ward, commanding Second Brigade, will furnish each of the following boats with a like guard: Colonel Cowles, Meteor, and Shreveport.

* * * * * * *

I also issued the following general order:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Steamer Hastings, Campti, La., April* 7, 1864.

Each transport of the fleet will be governed by the signals ordered by the rear-admiral commanding Mississippi Squadron, a copy of which will be posted in the pilot-house. They will keep their position indicated in the order of march. If accident occurs to any boat the fleet will stop till the necessary repairs are made. No boat will land for fuel or any purpose save by order, and transports will frequently communicate their condition and requirements to the commanding general on the headquarters boat Hastings. The most rigid discipline will be enforced by military commanders, not only upon the soldiers who guard the boats, but the crews and servants of the same, being careful, however, to treat steam-boat officers with courtesy, and avoiding improper interference with the navigation of the boats. Pillaging will not be countenanced, and officers will be held personally and strictly accountable for their commands.

Attention is directed to Special Orders, No. 21, prohibiting the landing of soldiers without orders, and the same order will apply to the officers, crews, and servants of the boats.

* * * * * * *

Learning from scouts at Campti that the enemy was in the vicinity, I ordered Colonel Moore to send a regiment to reconnoiter. The result of their reconnaissance was advices that the enemy passed up the river rapidly.

April 8, got under way at 10.30 a. m., being delayed by the Iberville getting aground and the necessity of relieving her of a portion of her cargo, she drawing at that time 6 feet 6 inches. Arrived at Coushatta Point 6 p. m., and learning that the enemy were at or near the chute, 6 miles above by water and 3 miles by land, I ordered Colonel Ward to debark his brigade and proceed to Coushatta Chute, with instructions to keep up communication with me through the night, and be prepared to re-embark at that place in the morning. The enemy retired before them, and during the night 2 prisoners were sent in; one Capt. Richard S. Venables detached to burn cotton. April 9, got under way at 9 a. m. Shortly after re-embarked Colonel Ward's command and arrived at Nine-Mile Bend at 5.30 p. m. On the 8th and 9th, we heard rumors of the battle, but mostly going to show that the enemy were defeated and in full retreat. April 10, got under way at 10 a. m., arriving at Loggy Bayou at 2 p. m. At that point the large steam-boat New Falls City had been thrown across the river by the enemy, heavily loaded with mud, and sunk. Agreeably to my instructions, I immediately debarked troops for reconnaissance, and while placing my command received a verbal message, through Colonel Taylor, delivered by Captain Andrew, from General Banks, to return the messenger, at the same time announcing reverses at Mansfield. I consulted with Rear-Admiral Porter, and ordered the fleet to back down the river in

the order the boats then lay, the rearmost boat to take the lead downstream, and turn as the bayous and pockets of the stream might afford facility. The river was exceedingly narrow and tortuous, the bottom covered with logs and snags, and the banks full of drift, rendering the navigation most difficult and dangerous. In the course of the night I succeeded in getting the fleet turned, and, April 11, got fairly under way at 6.30 a. m., and arrived at Coushatta Chute at 8 p. m., meeting but trifling resistance from the enemy. Here I received the following written order:

ON THE ROAD, *April* 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. KILBY SMITH,
Commanding Division, Seventeenth Army Corps:

The general commanding directs that you return immediately to Grand Ecore with supply steamers and your entire command. Please report to him upon your arrival.

By command of Major-General Banks:

GEO. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

April 12, sailed at 7 a. m. This day the navigation was exceedingly difficult, and almost all of the transports were in a crippled condition, rudders unshipped and wheels broken. I felt it necessary to separate the fleet as much as possible to avoid collisions in turning the bends. Keeping the troop transports under my eye and control, the admiral having preceded me in the lead, I kept to the rear of the fleet. At 12 m. the enemy began to appear in considerable numbers, and, firing on the Meteor, killed 1 man. Desultory firing was kept up continuously until, at 4 o'clock, the Hastings went under the bank on the south side of the river, near Pleasant Hill Landing, to repair wheel, which had become unserviceable; the Alice Vivian, a boat that had reported the day before, lying midway in the stream, fast aground. The Black Hawk towing the gun-boat Osage. The Vivian signaled for help. I ordered the Clara Bell to report to her. Clara Bell failing to move her the Emerald was ordered to her. About this time the Rob Roy ran astern of the Black Hawk, and the enemy, a brigade about 1,200 strong, with four field pieces, commanded by General Green, of Texas, formed upon the bank, putting their pieces in battery within point-blank range of the Hastings, the nearest boat. The Neosho* and Lexington (gun-boats) at this time were lying at the opposite bank, half a mile up. I ordered the Hastings to cast off, and just as we got under way the battery opened upon us, the first shot falling a little short, the others over us; their practice was defective. Getting a good position upon the opposite shore I opened upon them with one section of Lieutenant Tiemeyer's battery, one gun of which was mounted upon the hurricane deck of the Emerald, the siege guns, which were upon the forecastle of the Rob Roy, and the howitzer from the hurricane deck of the Black Hawk, the latter admirably handled by Colonel Abert, of General Banks' staff. We killed their battery horses and they changed position repeatedly, moving their guns up by hand. Meanwhile their sharpshooters had deployed up the river, and sheltered behind the cottonwoods that lined the banks immediately opposite the boats, from whence they poured in an incessant fire. My soldiers were all upon the hurricane decks, protected by cotton

* In another copy this appears as Osage.

bales, bales of hay, and sacks of oats, sufficient barricade to rifle-balls, enabling them to mark the enemy with deadly aim. After the fight commenced the gun-boat Neosho, that had been aground above, rounded the point and getting into position delivered canister from her heavy guns with great effect. The Lexington, Neosho, No. 13, and Hindman were not idle, and the bank for 2 miles up and down was swept with grape and canister. Before sundown we had silenced the enemy's batteries, and shortly after they fled from the field, leaving many dead, among them General Green, who had his head blown off, and who had behaved with great gallantry throughout the fight. Fortunately I had ordered all the transports below, save the Clara Bell, Black Hawk, Emerald, the Vivian (aground as before stated), and the Rob Roy. My loss therefore is incredibly small. Just at dark, under the direction of the admiral, who below communicated with me by the dispatch-boat Gazelle, I ordered the transports down, and as time, particularly at night, was precious to me, and my responsibilities as to the supplies, ordnance, and ordnance stores in the fleet great, I did not deem it proper to gather up the wounded, but left them with the dead to the care of the enemy, who I knew would be upon the ground after our departure. I kept the fleet under way till 1 a. m., when, from the darkness and grounding of boats, I ordered the fleet tied up.

April 13, the John Warner got aground in the middle of the stream and held the fleet all day. About 12 m. the enemy's forces, under Liddell, upon the north bank of the river, planted their battery, 6-pounder field pieces, upon a height commanding the fleet, and began to annoy us. The admiral had gone below, and communicating with Captain Selfridge, of the gun-boat Osage, I went with him to a point below the fleet, from which he drove the enemy from position, as we supposed; at all events we silenced their batteries. At this time the fleet had become crowded close together, under the bluff of the south shore, wherefrom they might be easily fired, and a vast deal of loose powder and fixed ammunition formed the cargo of many boats. It was of the last importance to separate the fleet, therefore I ordered the Sioux City, with Colonel Humphrey's regiment on board, to lead the way and the sound transports to follow—that is, those I did not need for tow-boats; for at that time many of the fleet were unmanageable from breaking of machinery. The Rob Roy was laden with the siege guns and ammunition, a most valuable cargo, under charge of Major Houston, of General Banks' staff. Her rudder being broken and the boat being unmanageable, as represented by her officers, I ordered the Clara Bell, a light side-wheel steamer, without cargo, to take her in tow. Both the Sioux City and the Clara Bell, as they passed the point, were struck, but neither damaged, nor were there any lives lost. These, I believe, were the only boats fired into. The Osage went round the point, and the Hindman took her place. All that day and all night I labored to get the John Warner off; lightened her cargo and tugged at her with the Iberville, Meteor, Rob Roy, and such other boats as had power. At daylight of the 14th, I ordered the balance of the fleet down, leaving the John Warner in charge of the Hindman. Getting the boats to Campti, and there meeting General A. J. Smith, with a force, I went back for the Warner, and was glad to meet her a mile or two from Campti. The Hindman had got her off.

April 15, lay all day by the Warner and Iberville, that were alternately on ground and swinging at the bars, and at midnight

both boats getting clear I ran with them down to this point, and have to report that notwithstanding difficult navigation the transports are all safe in port, without loss of cargo save less than a hundred sacks of oats, thrown overboard from the Universe, to make room for hardtack in relieving the Iberville. The following is the list of casualties:*

I desire to compliment, in this connection, for their steadiness of nerve under fire and prompt obedience to all orders, the following gentlemen, officers of the steam-boat Hastings: Capt. W. K. Houston, George Davis, first mate; Paul Woodward, second mate, and Robert Easley, pilot. These deserve special mention, and their gallantry saved the boat. Colonel Moore, Colonel Ward, and the officers and soldiers of this command without any exception, behaved with the greatest gallantry. I respectfully ask to be permitted to file, in a supplementary report, the reports of those officers when they shall be prepared.

N. B.—The distance from Grand Ecore to Loggy Bayou is 110 miles.

I may also remark that the last battery we encountered was planted by Colonel [General] Liddell (said to command a force of from 1,500 to 2,500 men) on a bluff on the north side of the river. The fleet was huddled together. I had reason to expect an attack from the south side. Intervening between that part of the river and the bluff was White Lake. Had I debarked the whole or any portion of my command to dislodge the battery I should not only have left the boats unguarded but should have been compelled to march 6 miles around the borders of this lake. I took all the circumstances under full consideration and determined to remain with the fleet. From information received since, and from the general results, I feel confident my course was the correct one.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. KILBY SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Captain HOUGH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. DIVISION, SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Vicksburg, Miss., May 25, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders I have the honor to submit the following synopsis report of the part taken by my command in the Red River expedition:

First. My command consists as follows: First Brigade, Col. J. B. Moore commanding, composed of Thirty-third Wisconsin Volunteers, Maj. H. H. Virgin commanding; Third Iowa Volunteers, Lieut. Col. James Tullis commanding; Forty-first Illinois Volunteers, Lieut. Col. J. H. Nale commanding. Second Brigade, Col. L. M. Ward commanding, composed of Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteers, Col. T. W. Humphrey commanding; Eighty-first Illinois Volunteers, Lieut. Col. A. W. Rogers commanding; Fourteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, Lieut. Col. J. W. Polleys commanding; and Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery, Lieut. John H. Tiemeyer commanding, numbering in rank and file 2,237.

* Nominal list (omitted) reports 2 killed and 17 wounded.

Second. In obedience to your orders of March 10, 1864, I embarked my command at Vicksburg on transports assigned. March 10, 7 p. m., sailed from Vicksburg, arriving back at the same port May 24, 3 a. m., having marched by land 239 miles.

Third. My command, in whole or part, has been in the following engagements and skirmishes, viz: (1) Fort De Russy, March 14; (2) Pleasant Hill Landing, April 12–13; (3) Cloutierville, April 23; (4) near Cloutierville, April 24; (5) Moore's Plantation, May 4; (6) Boyce's Plantation, May 6; (7) Governor Wells' Plantation, May 6; (8) Bayou Boeuf, May 7; (9) Marksville, May 16; (10) Moreauville, May 17; (11 and 12) Yellow Bayou, May 18.

Fourth. The casualties are as follows:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.	Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Men.	
First Brigade, Col. J. B. Moore	....	5	.....	15	1	21
Second Brigade, Col. L. M. Ward	1	5	.....	22	.....	28
Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery, Lieut. J. H. Tiemeyer.	.....	2	.....	3	.....	5
Total	1	12	.....	40	1	54

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. KILBY SMITH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. J. HOUGH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Detach. 16th and 17th Army Corps.

No. 57.

Report of Lieut. John H. Tiemeyer, Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery, of operations March 26–April 13.

HDQRS. BATTERY M, FIRST MISSOURI LIGHT ARTILLERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 18, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with orders received from headquarters chief of artillery, Department of the Gulf, I have the honor to very respectfully report the part taken by my command while on the Red River expedition since it left Alexandria, La. March 26, at 8 a. m., we left Alexandria by land and marched on a road leading along Bayou Rapides to a point on Red River called Judge Boyce's plantation, where we arrived at 1 p. m. March 27. Remained here in camp to await the arrival of the transports, supposed to have much difficulty in passing the falls above Alexandria. Transports having arrived April 2, we embarked and moved up the stream at 2 p. m., arriving at Grand Ecore on the next date. April 7, at 6 a. m., the Sixteenth Army Corps moved from our camp to join General Banks' command, then on its way to Shreveport, while our division embarked as a guard for the transports as they proceeded up the river. One section with me was on Emerald and one section with Lieutenant Shepherd on board the Thomas E. Tutt. Left Grand Ecore at

1 p. m.; moved up the river to a point where the enemy had sunk a transport (the New Falls City) in such a manner that it obstructed our further passage. We met with no obstructions previous to arriving worthy of note. At 2 p. m., April 10, on arriving here the signal was given for the troops to land, and they had landed when orders were received for us to return, but the river being very narrow we proceeded but slowly during that night and the next day, April 12, at 9 a. m., was fired upon from the left bank, and they continued firing upon us at intervals until 4 p. m. from that bank, when the First Brigade and one section of my battery, being some distance in rear of the fleet, were attacked from the right bank with cavalry, infantry, and artillery, supposed to be a part of the command from Pleasant Hill. They made three desperate charges up to the very edge of the bank, but they were repulsed each time with heavy loss on their side. The section did much execution in breaking and destroying their [battery,] especially the piece that I had placed upon the hurricane roof; it being a commanding position, was elevated with much precision as well as fired very rapidly during the engagement, which lasted some two hours, when the boat moved down some 4 miles and tied up for the night. April 13, moved down the stream some 5 miles, when we came upon a battery that the enemy had planted on the left bank on some bluffs (called Pine Hills) that obstructed our further passage. The gun that I had on the hurricane roof being in a commanding position, I fired several destructive [shots] into it, when the boat received a shot that pierced her staircases and struck her furnace, exploding, severely wounding 2 firemen, when the boat moved back under cover of the right bank. During the night the enemy moved their battery, and we met with no more obstructions worthy of note until arriving at Grand Ecore, where we arrived at 4 p. m. April 14.

I would make special mention that Lieutenant Shepherd, who had command of the section on the Thomas E. Tutt, performed his duty in the most commendable manner. I would also make mention that the men of both sections conducted themselves in the most brave and soldierly manner. I would make special mention of Sergeant Skipp and his detachment, for their cool and deliberate bravery while manning the gun upon the hurricane roof during the afternoon of the 12th of April. Number of rounds of ammunition fired, 162; casualties, none.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. TIEMEYER,
First Lieut., First Missouri Light Arty., Comdg. Battery M.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 58.

Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew W. Rogers, Eighty-first Illinois Infantry, Second Brigade, of operations April 7–13.

HDQRS. EIGHTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 16, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with circular just received I have the honor to make the following report of the engagements in which my regiment

was engaged: According to orders my regiment embarked on the 7th instant, on board transports, in the following order: Myself, field and staff, on the Thomas E. Tutt; Company B, First Lieut. Edmund Newsome commanding, on the steamer Southwester; H Company, Second Lieut. L. G. Porter commanding, on the steamer Diadem; and I Company, First Lieut. O. F. Richmond commanding, on the steamer Adriatic. The passage up the river was effected without anything passing worthy of note until we reached Loggy Bayou, when we received orders to return to Grand Ecore immediately. Our retrograde movement was begun on the evening of the 11th. On the 12th we were not molested. On the morning of the 13th, at the mouth of a bayou opposite Springdale, we were fired into by an enemy upon the left bank of the river. The fire was returned with spirit and animation while in range, without any casualties in my regiment. A few miles below shots were fired by an unseen enemy without effect; a few volleys from us silenced them, and without further hinderance were suffered to proceed until about 3 p. m., when from a heavy woods in a bend of the river we were again fired upon with more animation than before, which was returned with gallantry and spirit by my regiment from behind rudely constructed breast-works of bales of hay and cracker boxes upon hurricane deck while in range. In this affair 2 men were severely wounded, 1 on board the steamer Thomas E. Tutt and 1 on the steamer Adriatic. On the 13th, the enemy had posted a battery of four guns, supported with infantry, 7 miles above Campti, which kept up a severe cannonade upon all the boats that attempted to run by, and from the position of our boats, shots from their batteries were thrown among us, though no reply could be made. The shelling was borne with unflinching courage. On the morning of the 14th, we ran down to Campti, and arrived at Grand Ecore in the afternoon. I cannot too highly praise the coolness and bravery of both officers and men in their untiring vigilance and promptness to duty, lying on arms for seventy-two hours, constantly repelling the attacks of a desperate enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. ROGERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. JOHN M. READ,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 59.

Reports of Col. Thomas W. Humphrey, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry, of operations March 16–April 15.

HDQRS. NINETY-FIFTH REGT. ILLINOIS INFANTRY,
Fort De Russy, La., March 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders from Col. L. M. Ward, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, Seventeenth Army Corps, Red River expedition, of date 8 a. m., 16th instant, I immediately proceeded to destroy the fortifications of the enemy known as Fort De Russy, they having been surrendered to our forces on the 14th instant. I moved my command under arms from the brigade camp, stacking arms within the fortifications,

which cover an area of about 17,500 square yards. The works were very formidable, being by far the most scientifically and permanently constructed works of the enemy I have seen, and, with our limited appliances, very difficult of destruction. The interior slope of the main redoubt, covering an area of about 2,500 square yards, was wholly revetted with heavy 14-inch square timbers, firmly pinned upon each other, mortised and tenoned at the angles. These, with great labor, were one by one wedged off, pulled down with ropes, and piled for burning. The extensive covered ways for commissary stores were demolished, and the constructive material also prepared for burning. All this was accomplished at 5 p. m., and as my orders were to burn nothing until further orders, I complimented my command for the zeal with which they had worked and the success of their labor, and marched them back to the brigade camp, distant only about 150 yards from the fort. At 7 p. m. I was notified that the magazines (three of them within the main redoubt, one of them containing about 50 kegs and barrels of powder) would be exploded at 8 o'clock, and ordered to embark my transportation, and to burn immediately after the explosion the timbers I had previously prepared for that purpose, and be ready to embark my men at an early hour. I received no orders to remove my command to a place of greater safety, and did not feel at liberty to move from my position in the brigade without orders. My company commanders were notified of the danger, and the men fell back from 100 to 200 yards, availing themselves of such protection as they best could. One and two hours passed beyond the appointed time, and the explosion did not take place. The night was cold, and the men weary from their day's work. One by one many of them resought their bunks and bivouac fire, when, at about 10.30 o'clock, the magazines blew up with terrific explosion, sinking the earth beneath one's feet, and filling the air for hundreds of yards with timbers, huge lumps of hard red clay, and other dangerous missiles. Samuel Snyder, Company A, left leg broken by a lump of hard red clay, so as to require amputation above the knee, and he is not expected to live. The right arm of Allen Giles, Company F, was broken in the same manner; Lieut. John D. Abbe, acting adjutant, was slightly wounded in the face; also several others, while many narrowly escaped death. A few minutes after the explosion of the magazines an iron field piece, situated in the west part of the fort, was burst, scattering the fragments of the piece through the brigade camp, killing, among others in the brigade, Private Samuel H. Jackson, Company C, of my regiment. About 12 o'clock I proceeded to burn the piled timbers, which left the fortifications in ruins, and as thoroughly destroyed as possible within such a limited time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS W. HUMPHREY,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. JOHN M. READ,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. NINETY-FIFTH REGIMENT ILLINOIS INFANTRY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that while at Grand Ecore, La., on the 7th instant, in obedience to orders I embarked on board steamer

Sioux City with eight companies of my regiment, Companies A and F, under command of Captain Stewart, having previously embarked as guard on board steamer Hastings. The fleet left Grand Ecore about 2 p. m. of that day, tying up at 6 p. m. at Campti for the night. At 8 p. m. Company A, Lieutenant Boyington commanding, in obedience to orders from division headquarters, went on board steamer Black Hawk as guard.

At 2 a. m. of the 8th instant, in obedience to orders from brigade headquarters, I ordered Company D, Captain Beckley commanding, to go on board steamer Shreveport as guard; also Company C, Lieutenant Wells commanding, to go on board steamer Meteor as guard; 8th instant proceeded up Red River without incident, tying up for the night a few miles below Coushatta Chute. On the 9th instant was fired upon with musketry without effect from east bank of the river, near Coushatta Chute; returned the fire spiritedly. Company A, Lieutenant Boyington commanding, on board steamer Black Hawk, was also fired upon in a like manner. 10th, proceeded up the river until 2 p. m., when we met an obstruction, the steamer New Falls City, having been sunken by the enemy, lying directly across the channel, her bow and stern resting against either bank of the river. Disembarked my regiment, with the exception of Companies A and C, formed line of battle, re-embarked in obedience to orders at 4 p. m., and moved down the river, floating backward about 6 miles; the stream being not sufficiently wide to round to, tied up for the night; moved on at daybreak on the morning of the 11th, rounding to after floating about 2 miles, and tying up for the night some miles above Coushatta Chute. 12th instant, was fired upon with musketry from the east bank of the river, near Coushatta Chute; returned the fire spiritedly. None of my men were wounded on steamer Sioux City. Company C, on steamer Meteor, Lieutenant Wells commanding, received a similar fire, returning it gallantly, with a loss of 1 man, Thomas J. Brown, killed. Company A, Lieutenant Boyington commanding, on steamer Black Hawk, and Company D, Captain Beckley commanding, on steamer Shreveport, were also fired upon from the same point without serious effect. At 5 p. m. of same day, Company A, Lieutenant Boyington, and Company F, Captain Stewart, bore an active and conspicuous part in the very effective repulse of the furious attack made from the west side of the river upon steamers Hastings, Black Hawk, and Emerald by the enemy, with artillery and 1,200 dismounted cavalry, supported by a heavy reserve, all under General Green. The gun-boat Osage, in tow by the Black Hawk, the gun-boat Lexington, four Parrott guns on bow of steamer Rob Roy, and one section Battery M, First Missouri Light Artillery, on steamer Emerald, all poured a terribly effective fire upon the enemy, the infantry using their muskets with great precision and effect at very close range. Company F had 1 man wounded; Company A had 8 men wounded. The conduct of Lieutenant Boyington and his company elicited and merited the praise of all witnesses. On 13th instant, at 1 p. m., ran a gauntlet of a four-gun (12-pounders) battery, well posted, and musketry at Vandares, on the east bank of the river. The shots were fired at the pilot-house with great precision, the first grazing the hurricane deck just forward of the pilot-house, demolishing at that point my breast-works of hard bread and wounding slightly First Sergeant Andrews, Company E, and 1 man; the balance of the shells missing the pilot-house but a few feet, and exploding with great precision.

I neglected to state sooner that I had taken the precaution to fortify my decks as much as possible with hay, hard bread, and every available article, so that my men were quite well protected from musketry, to which precaution and the admirable coolness with which my sharpshooters played upon the enemy I attribute in a great measure my escape with so little loss.

Mr. Thaddeus Sederburg, the head pilot on the steamer Sioux City, disgracefully deserted the pilot-house when the first shell was fired, leaving Captain Woolfolk (of whose coolness and bravery I cannot speak in too high terms) alone at the wheel. The second pilot, Mr. Lewis Allen, at the time below, went to the pilot-house. While the boat was under fire, the chief engineer did his full duty. The steamer Black Hawk was also fired upon with artillery and musketry from the same point, three of the shells striking her. One man wounded, but not of Company A. The steamer Meteor was also fired upon by the same battery, one shot entering the pilot-house. None of Company C wounded. Company I was ordered to steamer John Warner, and from her to steamer Universe, receiving while on the latter below Campti, on the 14th instant, a heavy fire of musketry from the west bank of the River; no casualties. The various transports reached Grand Ecore during the afternoon of the 14th and on the 15th instant.

Total casualties, 1 killed and 11 wounded. I take this opportunity to manifest my appreciation of the coolness and bravery displayed by the officers and men of my regiment under such trying circumstances, and feel that they are true soldiers and may be relied upon in any emergency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS W. HUMPHREY,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

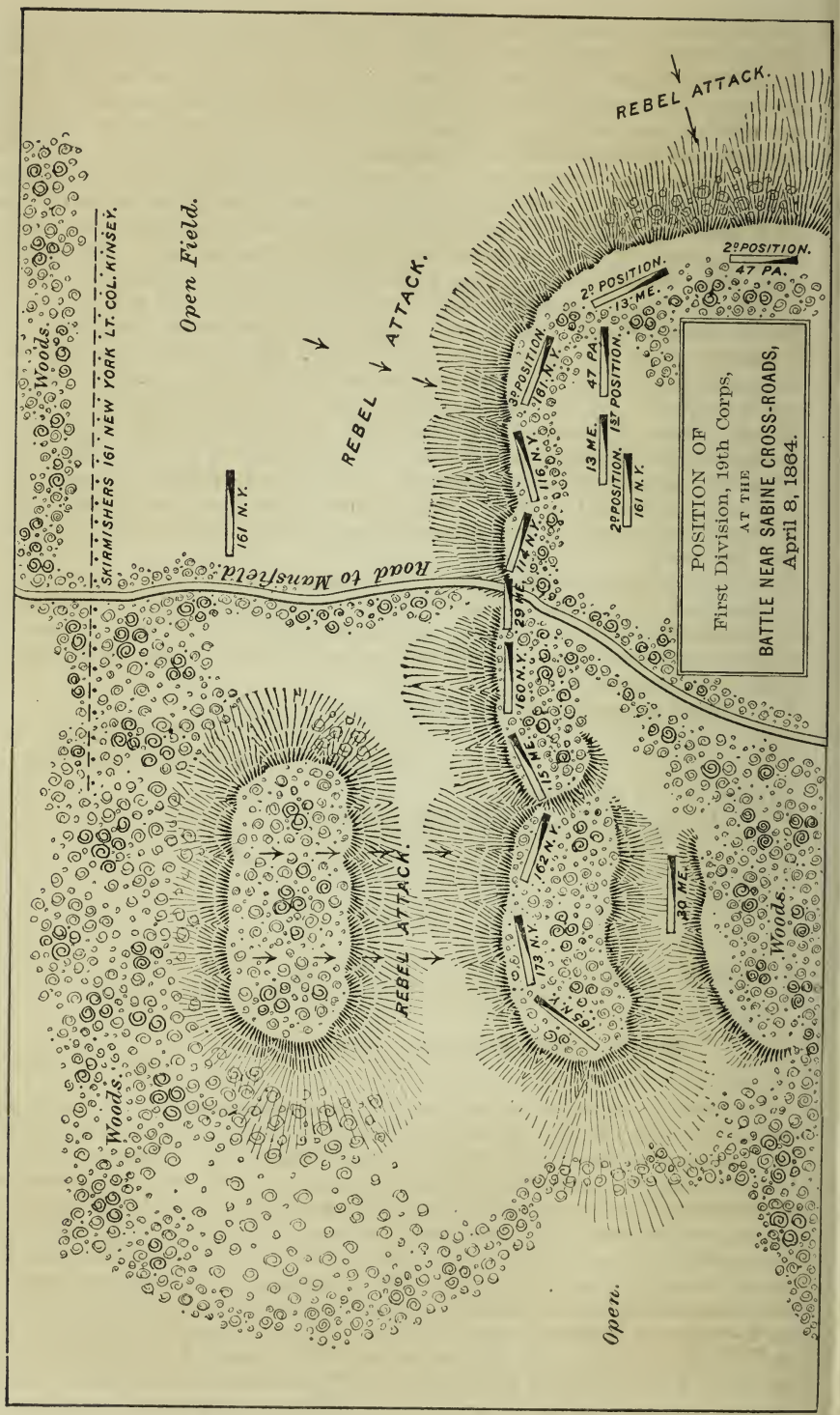
Lieut. JOHN M. READ,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

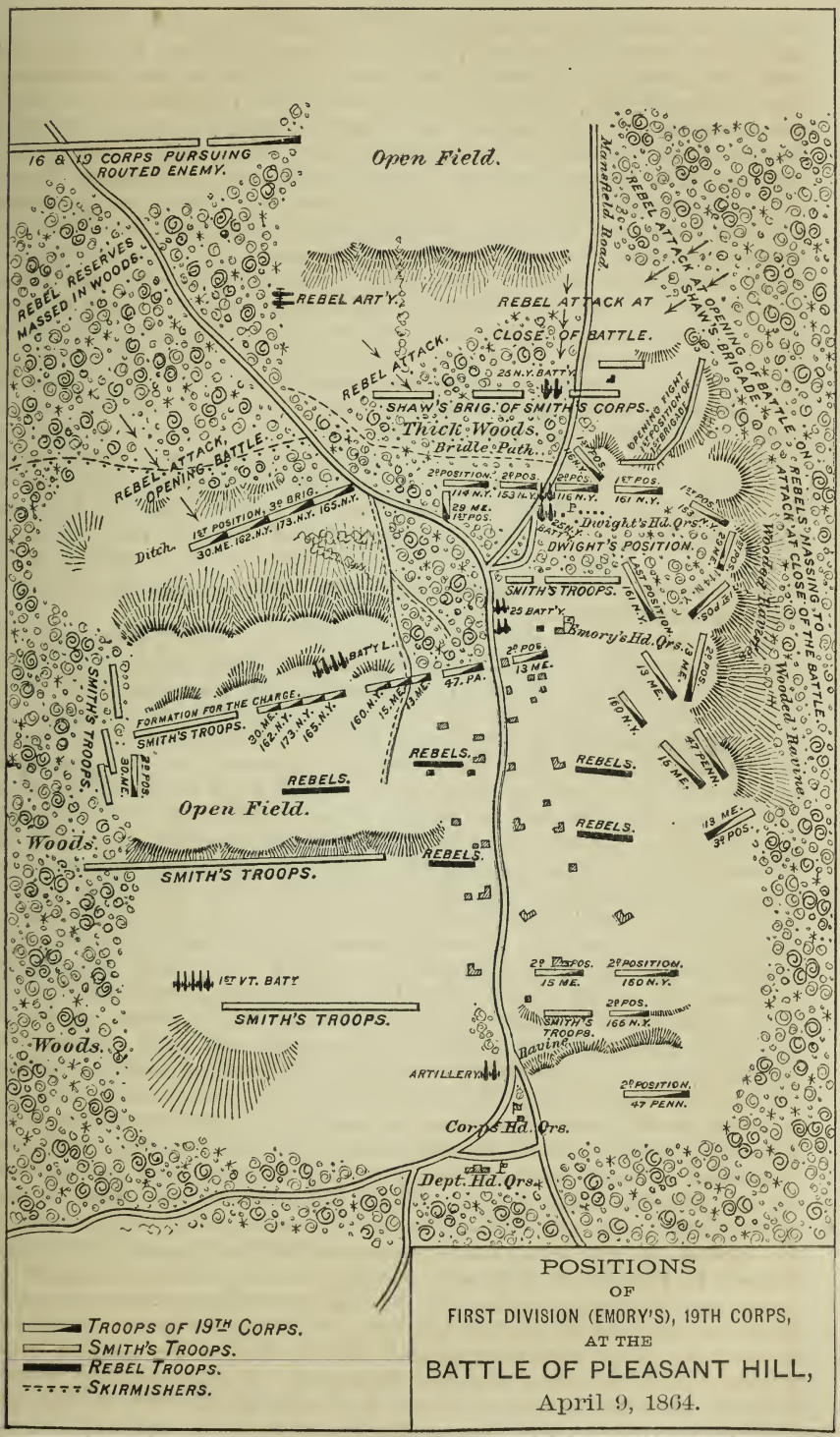
No. 60.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, commanding First Division and Nineteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to orders from headquarters, I have the honor to submit the following report of operations of the First Divison at the battles of Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill on the 8th and 9th instant: At 3.40 p. m. on the 8th, while bivouacked at a stream 7 miles east of Sabine Cross-Roads, I received orders to march to the front with two days' rations. A delay of a few minutes was caused in issuing the rations, when the division marched rapidly forward without a single halt. When within 3 miles of the field of battle the head of my column was met by a cloud of fugitive negroes on horseback, followed soon after by masses of cavalry, wagons, and ambulances in the utmost confusion. The head of my column, undaunted by this awful spectacle, only quickened their pace to the front. About this time I received several messages from the major-


REBEL ATTACK.
Open Field.
Woods.
SKIRMISHERS 161 NEW YORK LT. COL. KINSEY.
REBEL ATTACK.
161 N.Y.
Road to Mansfield.
2D POSITION.
47 PA.
2D POSITION.
13 ME.
3D POSITION.
181 N.Y.
47 PA.
1ST POSITION.
13 ME.
2D POSITION.
161 N.Y.
116 N.Y.
114 N.Y.
29 ME.
160 N.Y.
15 ME.
162 N.Y.
173 N.Y.
165 N.Y.
30 ME.
REBEL ATTACK.
Woods.
Woods.
Open.
POSITION OF
First Division, 19th Corps,
AT THE
BATTLE NEAR SABINE CROSS-ROADS,
April 8, 1864.



POSITIONS
OF
FIRST DIVISION (EMORY'S), 19TH CORPS,
AT THE
BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL,
April 9, 1864.

general commanding to select a position and form line of battle. I found one, and in the act of commencing to form, a tremendous rush was made on the line by the mass of fugitives, and the enemy's shot began to drop among us. To check the pursuit of the enemy and to enable me to form a line of battle I moved to the front with the One hundred and sixty-first New York, Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey commanding, and deployed it as skirmishers at the foot of the hill I had selected for my line of battle, which was done in very gallant style, and enabled General Dwight, who commanded my First and leading brigade, to form his line across the road in the edge of the woods commanding the open slope in front. General McMillan, commanding the Second Brigade, was formed in his rear as a reserve, and Colonel Benedict, commanding the Third Brigade, was formed into line to the left. They had scarcely formed when the One hundred and sixty-first New York was attacked and driven in. At the same time my right was threatened, and General McMillan was ordered to the right and into line at nearly a right angle to General Dwight. The whole line opened on the enemy, who were driven back, and the prisoners report with great slaughter. During the fight a determined effort was made to turn the left flank, which was repulsed. Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing was 13 officers and 343 men. Nothing but the high discipline and morale of my division enabled me to form the line of battle under such discouraging circumstances.

At 12 midnight we were ordered to fall back upon Pleasant Hill, about 15 miles distant, and cover the retreat, which place we reached about 8.30 o'clock in the morning, leaving behind none of the many wagons which obstructed the road and impeded our march. On reaching Pleasant Hill I went into line of battle, faced to the rear in the following order: The First Brigade, General Dwight commanding, on the right, resting on a ravine which runs to the north of the town; second, General McMillan, commanding Second Brigade; third, Colonel Benedict, commanding Third Brigade. General McMillan was posted in the edge of a wood commanding an open field in front and Benedict's brigade in a ditch, his left resting in an open field. I sent word twice to request that Benedict's left might be supported by a brigade, placed in reserve or in line of battle. The Twenty-fifth New York Battery was posted on the hill between the First and Second Brigades. The whole line was about one-half a mile in advance of the town. After establishing my line General McMillan was withdrawn and placed on the right and rear as a reserve, and his place was supplied by a brigade of General Smith's division. My pickets were skirmishing, and the shots were few and desultory through the day, and it was not supposed the enemy would attack. However, at about 5.15 p. m., he emerged from the woods in all directions, and in heavy columns completely outflanked and overpowered my left wing, composed of the Third Brigade and a brigade of General Smith's command, which broke in some confusion and enabled the enemy to get temporary possession of four pieces artillery of Battery L, First United States. My right stood firm and repulsed the enemy handsomely, and the left, I think, would have done so but for the great interval which was left between it and the troops to the left, leaving that flank entirely exposed, and the fall of the gallant leader of the Third Brigade, Colonel Benedict. I immediately ordered General McMillan's brigade from the right to the left, in the open space in the rear of the line of the Third Brigade, and ordered him

to charge the enemy. Behind this line most of the Third Brigade rallied, some joining themselves to McMillan's brigade and some to General Smith's command; all moved forward together, and drove in the enemy's right flank more than 1¼ miles. Seeing their right wing driven in and thrown upon their left wing, they renewed their attack with great vigor upon my right, but were repulsed with great slaughter, and during the whole day my right, which was in echelon in front of the rest of my line, held its ground against several determined assaults. Our loss this day was, in killed, wounded, and missing, 28 officers and 473 men. As soon as they are received I shall forward the reports of brigade and regimental commanders, and take advantage of the opportunity to call to the notice of the major-general commanding the officers and regiments which have most distinguished themselves.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Nineteenth Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. 19TH A. C. AND U. S. FORCES IN W. LA.,
Grand Ecore, April 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I desire also to express my sense of the great gallantry and good sense and military judgment shown by Brigadier-General Emory in the battles reported upon.

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 15, 1864.

MAJOR: When I sent in my report yesterday I stated that I would send in the reports of brigade commanders as soon as they reached me, and I asked the privilege of naming those who had rendered themselves conspicuous by their gallantry and good conduct. I now send in the reports of the three brigade commanders, Brigadier-General Dwight, Brigadier-General McMillan, and Colonel Fessenden. I wish to name these three officers as having done their duty with efficiency and gallantry, and I fully indorse the names that they have mentioned in their several reports. I wish to mention more specifically Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey, commanding One hundred and sixty-first New York, who went forward under my own direction and held the enemy at bay while the line was forming. There are no doubt many other deserving regimental officers than those noted in the brigade reports, but these facts will be supplied when they come to my knowledge.

I desire to avail myself of this opportunity to express my thanks to Maj. J. M. Sizer, One hundred and sixteenth New York, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. Duncan S. Walker, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. R. F. Wilkinson, judge-advocate; Capt R. P. York, provost-marshal; Captain Bockee, assistant ordnance

officer; Lieut. Peter French, aide-de-camp; Lieutenant Loring, aide-de-camp; and Lieutenants Bailey and Warren, signal officers, all of my staff, for the conspicuous gallantry and good conduct with which they behaved. They were on every part of the field where it was necessary to rally the men or encourage them to advance.

I am, major, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 18, 1864.

MAJOR: In my letter commending my staff to the consideration of the major-general commanding I omitted to mention Surg. C. B. Hutchins. One hundred and sixteenth New York, acting medical director First Division. His care of the sick and wounded in both engagements and his conduct on the field were highly praiseworthy.

I am, major, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., April 28, 1864.

MAJOR: On the morning of the 23d instant, at 12 o'clock, after having just completed with my division a march of 40 miles, I received orders from the major-general commanding to march and attack the enemy at Cane River Crossing, and for this purpose he placed at my disposal the following forces: My own division, General Cameron's command, General Birge's command, General Arnold's cavalry command, and his chief of artillery, Captain Closson. The head of the infantry column, consisting of my own division, marched at 4.30 a. m., preceded by the cavalry under General Arnold, Colonel Gooding's brigade leading. In less than 3 miles from Cloutierville the enemy's pickets were encountered. The cavalry was ordered to drive them in and press them until they ascertained the line of battle occupied by the enemy. They skirmished handsomely and briskly, driving in the enemy's pickets until they got to the line of battle occupied by the enemy, which was very strong and defended by two batteries of eight pieces each, which crossed their fire on an open field, through which it was necessary to pass before we could reach the enemy's position. The ground occupied by them, besides being covered with timber, was about some 100 feet higher than that by which we were obliged to approach. This condition of things was partly foreseen before we started and anticipated by the inclosed copy of an order given General Birge. For a sketch of the ground and the position of the troops I inclose a map* by my aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Loring.

*See p. 395.

POSITIONS
AT
BATTLE OF CANE RIVER CROSSING,
April 23, 1864.
Union Inft.
" Cav.
" Arty.
"Skirmishers.
Rebel Troops.
" Arty.
"Skirmishers.
Road.
Wood Road.
Fence.
H'd Qrs.
Route of Gen. Birge.
FORD.
13TH CORPS.
BIRGE'S COMMAND.
SAW MILL.
Dept. Hd. Qrs.
Corps Hd. Qrs.
McMillan's Hd. Qrs.
1ST POS. 2D BRIG. 1ST DIV.
Hospital.
Emory's Hd. Qrs.
2ND POS. 2D BRIG. 1ST DIV.
3D POS. 2D BRIG. 1ST DIV.
NIELDS' ART'Y LAST POSITION.
Open Fields.
Open Field.
13TH CORPS.
3D BRIG. 1ST DIV.
ASSAULT
Swamp
Wooded Bluffs.
CANE RIVER
1ST POS. 1ST BRIG. 1ST DIV.
Thick Woods.
Swamp.
Open
Fields.
LAST POSITION 2D BRIG. 1ST DIV. N.Y. CAV.
LAST POSITION 1ST BRIG. 1ST DIV.
Burton's Crossing
Steep Bluffs.
CAVALRY DEMONSTRATION
REBEL RETREAT.
Pursuit of Rebels.
Cavalry in
REBEL RETREAT.

Birge, re-enforced by the Third Brigade of my division, Colonel Fessenden commanding, supported by General Cameron, commanding a small portion of the Thirteenth Army Corps, was ordered to cross the Cane River out of sight of the enemy, and about 3 miles above the crossing, with instructions to turn the enemy's flank and carry the height in the reverse, cost what it might, for on that depended the success of the whole movement.

Captain Closson, chief of artillery, was ordered to bring forward his artillery and batter the enemy's position, supported by General McMillan, commanding two brigades of the First Division. General Arnold was directed to send a brigade of cavalry to our left, cross below, and threaten the enemy's right flank and rear, with orders, if Birge was successful, to pursue the enemy. The ground over which Birge had to pass was exceedingly difficult, traversed by muddy bayous, high and sharp ridges covered by a dense growth of pine, and other topographical difficulties. His progress was necessarily very slow and tedious, and he did not get into position until late in the afternoon. While he was getting into position the artillery was beautifully handled by Captain Closson, chief of artillery, and kept the enemy's attention fully occupied, and at the moment I heard the first rattle of General Birge's musketry, I directed a battery to take position directly in front of the crossing, and deployed lines of skirmishers, as if preparing for an assault. The enemy made one attempt to cross the river and charge this battery, but was quickly repulsed by the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, who were supporting it, and Colonel Chrysler, commanding Second New York [Veteran] Cavalry, dismounted as skirmishers, with great gallantry led his skirmishers on foot immediately in pursuit and took possession of the crossing. The splendid firing of the battery, placed in the last-named position, happening about the time that General Birge was carrying the enemy's flank by assault, caused the enemy to break and run. General Birge, after the circuitous and tedious march above described, at last fell upon the enemy's flank, and found him in very strong position, occupying the crest of a high hill with an open field in front. This hill General Birge caused to be carried by assault, by the Third Brigade of my division, Colonel Fessenden commanding. It was done in the most gallant style, and reflects great credit upon General Birge, Colonel Fessenden, and the Third Brigade. This was in fact the turning point of the battle, and it was here our principal loss was encountered. Colonel Davis, commanding cavalry brigade, did not succeed in gaining the enemy's right flank and rear, but as soon as the enemy broke I sent forward Colonel Chrysler, supported by Colonel Crebs, both cavalry commanders, supported by General Cameron, to pursue the enemy and capture his artillery, if possible. The main force of the enemy took the Fort Jesup road. One small regiment of the enemy, either because it was hard pressed or with the intention of misleading our troops, retreated on the Henderson's Hill road. Colonel Chrysler, unfortunately deceived by this movement of the enemy's rear guard, the darkness of the night, and the order of the pursuit, led off on the wrong road. Our whole loss in killed, wounded, and missing is only about 200 men, 153 of whom are from the Third Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps. Inclosed are the reports of the several commanders and the chiefs of cavalry and artillery, and I have to thank them, and also my staff, for the cordial and intelligent support they gave me during

the day. I have also to thank the major-general commanding the department and the major-general commanding the Nineteenth Army Corps, who came on the field early in the day to aid by their advice and gave the benefit of their presence to encourage the troops. I had no means of ascertaining with any degree of certainty the number of the forces of the enemy engaged, nor their loss. Prisoners that were captured report that there were four general officers present, Generals Bee, Major, Bagby, and Debray, and sixteen pieces of artillery.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Near Cane River, La., April 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General BIRGE:

GENERAL: Inclosed is a copy of the instructions I have received from headquarters Department of the Gulf, through the general commanding the Nineteenth Army Corps: You will march as soon as General McMillan's command has passed your present position, gain possession of the ford, turn the enemy's left flank, and carry his position by storm if possible. To cover your operations General McMillan, with the First and Second Brigades of the First Division, and all the artillery of the army that can be brought into play, will make a direct attack in front upon the passage of the river. You will be supported by General Cameron. The noise of the shelling will be the signal for you to effect your crossing and make the assault.

Respectfully,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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HDQRS. 19TH ARMY CORPS AND U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., May 28, 1864.

MAJOR: I have now sent off all the extra animals, wagons, and baggage of every description belonging to this army. I have also sent off all the cavalry, except 2,000, and Landram's division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, numbering 2,500, and all its train. To-morrow I shall commence to ship the wagons of the balance of the Thirteenth Army Corps, but until re-enforced, or otherwise instructed, I do not think it prudent to send away any more of the Thirteenth Army Corps. I ask instructions on this subject. No additional force of the Nineteenth Corps has yet reached here. I have sent an officer to Vicksburg to ascertain what I am to expect from that quarter in the way of water transportation and supplies, the last of which I am ordered to draw from that place. A copy of the instructions from General Canby, which I showed the general commanding, was forwarded to General Dwight, chief of staff, by my aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Loring, as requested by General

Dwight. I have this moment learned from a citizen that a part of Major's force has crossed the Atchafalaya at Morgan's Ferry, and is yet crossing. Their pickets are now within 8 miles of this place. I shall send out in the morning to find them if there.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Special field return of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Volunteers, after the action of April 9, 1864, at Pleasant Hill, La.

Troops.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.	Effective strength next day.		
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		Officers.	Men.	Total.
First Division:										
Infantry	6	43	18	261	3	369	689	243	4,802	5,045
Artillery		4	1	14	1	5	25	8	331	339
Aggregate	6	47	19	275	4	374	714	251	5,133	5,384

HEADQUARTERS, *April* 13, 1864.

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 48. HDQRS. NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Simsport, La., May* 18, 1864.

Soldiers of the First and Second Divisions, Nineteenth Army Corps! It is my duty to express to you my high appreciation of your uniform good conduct throughout the late eventful campaign. This duty is rendered more imperative by the false reports of your operations which have met you at this point. On the 8th of April, at the first notice that our troops in the front were engaged, the First Division, the only troops of the Nineteenth Corps there present, marched in double-quick time 7 miles to the front, formed line of battle under fire of the enemy, checked him, and drove him back, under circumstances the most trying that could befall troops. The whole advance, composed of 8,000 or 10,000 troops, were thrown back upon you in utter disorder and confusion, pell-mell with the enemy. You formed line of battle under fire of the enemy, and amidst this frightful disorder, with the regularity of forming for parade, you drove the enemy from before you, and held the ground until ordered to fall back. The next day at Pleasant Hill you of the First Division bore the brunt of the enemy's furious attack, and only one brigade, that on the left, gave way, because its left was unsupported; but this soon rallied and joined in the final charge which drove the enemy from the field. On the 23d, at Cane River, you, supported by the Thirteenth Army Corps, found the enemy strongly posted to dispute the crossing of the river. Led by the Third Brigade of the

First Division you turned his flank and drove him at the point of the bayonet from the hills he occupied. At Alexandria you contributed your labor by day and night for seventeen days, under the engineering skill of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, to the great work which relieved the fleet from its perilous situation above the falls, and restored it to the country. At Mansura, on the 16th of May, you met the enemy on an open plain, and, supported on your right by the Sixteenth Army Corps and Colonel Lucas' cavalry, drove him from the field.

This, in brief, is a summary of your services for the last two months, and I know, when it becomes known to the country, the judgment will be that you, at least, have done your duty faithfully.

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

—

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
May 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General EMORY:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that his attention has been called to General Orders, No. 48, from your headquarters. Had his attention been called to it previous to its publication he would have required some alterations. As it is, he directs me to say to you that it does not meet with his entire approval. He deems it unnecessary and unwise, in giving deserved credit to the conduct of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, at the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads, to call attention in so marked a manner to the disorder and confusion among other troops of this command, and he thinks that the implication in the last paragraph that certain troops of this command did not do their duty had better have been omitted. He further directs me to say to you that in your reference to the battle at Cane River it appears to him that the credit is not given to that portion of the Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, which fought at that place and contributed largely to the victory.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Simsport, La., May 20, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to have received this moment the dispatch from headquarters Department of the Gulf, of this date, finding fault with my General Orders, No. 48. I have myself been too much the victim of injustice and misrepresentation to be capable, knowingly, of inflicting upon others any injury; and if the order that I have issued is capable of misconstruction, I will take the greatest pleasure in changing it. I spoke in person to the general commanding of my intention to issue an order meeting the falsehoods that had been put forth and published in the Northern papers, and I admit that I would have been more prudent to have submitted it to him before I had

issued it. I request, however, to state this in explanation of my order: Every paper at the North has published an account of the rout of the advance guard of our army. I suppose that a manuscript order, issued only for the troops of my command, could not add to the publicity given to that affair. (See New York Times, herewith inclosed.) I must beg to say that the language referred to in my last paragraph is wholly misunderstood, and that I only intended to do justice to my own troops by saying that they had done their duty at least. The paragraph referring to the battle of Cane River is addressed to the whole of the Nineteenth Army Corps there present, and was so understood by those to whom I read it before issuing the order. Look at the list of killed and wounded in the Third Brigade of the First Division and see if it was not my duty to make special mention of this brigade, particularly as it had been censured at the battle of Pleasant Hill. I have no other motive under Heaven than to do my own troops justice and to vindicate them from slander, and I have not the least thought of overlooking the services of the Second Division, which is a part of them, or of casting the shadow of reproach upon the brave men of the cavalry or the detachments of the Thirteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Army Corps, which have been serving with us with harmony and unity. If with this explanation the major-general commanding still thinks I have done injustice and wrong in issuing this order, I request I may be permitted to publish to the troops his letter of censure and this my letter of reply, as the only atonement I can make for the injury which in his opinion has been inflicted.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

—

Headquarters District of West Virginia,
Cumberland, Md., October 29, 1865.

Brigadier-General Rawlins,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

General: I have the honor to request authority to submit for the consideration of Lieutenant-General Grant, and such disposition as he may deem proper to make of them, the inclosed two reports, made on the 13th [12th] and 28th April, 1864, to Major-General Franklin, then commanding the Nineteenth Army Corps, and by him, as the indorsements on the back of the reports will show, forwarded to the general then commanding the army engaged in what is known as the Red River campaign.* This request, though not without precedent, is unusual, and I should not make it except from a sense of duty to myself and the brave men of my command, who whipped the enemy wherever they met them. The newspaper accounts which went to the world as true histories of that campaign were false in fact, and utterly unjust to my command, which was the First Division of the Nineteenth Army Corps, and almost the only part of the corps at that time engaged in the active portion of that campaign. I trusted to the official reports to correct the injustice which the newspapers inflicted, but in that I have been disappointed, for it does not appear that my reports, or any reports based

* See pp. 389, 394.

thereon, have ever seen the light, and in making this request I am tardily fulfilling a promise to my command in the only mode that occurs to me as legitimate. With the aid of subsequent events the reports could have been made much more comprehensive, but I have not felt at liberty to alter them in any respect, but send them as they were written and transmitted in the field immediately after the battles were fought. Should the lieutenant-general see fit to receive these reports and think it proper to require the reports of the brigade commanders, referred to therein, I shall at once forward them in addition.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Respectfully forwarded to Secretary of War.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

—

GENERAL ORDERS, No 12. } HDQRS. NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS, *Camp Russell, [Va.,] November 22, 1864.*

The following-named regiments are hereby authorized to inscribe upon their colors the names of the engagements set opposite their respective names, in which they bore a distinguished part:

Thirteenth Maine Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

Fifteenth Maine Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

Thirtieth Maine Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and sixtieth New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers—Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River Crossing, La.

Thirty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers—Cane River Crossing, La.

Thirteenth Connecticut Volunteers—Cane River Crossing, La.

One hundred and twenty-eighth New York Volunteers—Cane River Crossing, La.

By command of Brevet Major-General Emory :

PETER FRENCH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 61.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, Acting Engineer Officer Nineteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. 19TH A. C. AND U. S. FORCES WESTERN LA.,
Monett's Ferry, La., April 23, 1864.

MAJOR : I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders I left the Alexandria and Grand Ecore road early this morning, 4 miles above Monett's Ferry, and traveled nearly north 8 miles, when I reached Red River at a point 10 miles above the mouth of Cane River ; thence down Red River to the mouth of Cane River, and from there up said river to the above-named ferry, and find that this entire country is a swamp extending close to the bank of Red River, except a narrow strip of land on the west bank of Cane River which could be completely commanded by field artillery from the bluffs on the opposite side, and which has been strongly guarded by the enemy during the day.

Cane River is not fordable below Monett's Ferry, and owing to the impassable swamp on one side and the high bluffs on the other, it would not be possible to cross Cane River at any point below the above-named ferry with the army.

I have the honor, major, to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY,
Lieut. Col. 4th Wis. Cav. and Actg. Mil. Eng. 19th A. C.

Maj. WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, 19th Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Simsport, La., May 17, 1864.

MAJOR : I have the honor to make the following report in reference to the construction of the dam across Red River, at the foot of the Alexandria falls, for the purpose of releasing that portion of Admiral Porter's Mississippi Squadron which was unable to pass the falls, owing to the low stage of the water. Immediately after our army received a check at Sabine Cross-Roads and the retreat commenced I learned through reliable sources that the Red River was rapidly falling. I became assured that by the time the fleet could reach Alexandria there would not be sufficient water to float the gun-boats over the falls. It was evident, therefore, that they were in imminent danger. Believing, as I did, that their capture or destruction would involve the destruction of our army, the blockade

of the Mississippi, and even greater disasters to our cause, I proposed to Major-General Franklin on the 9th of April, previous to the battle of Pleasant Hill, to increase the depth of water by means of a dam, and submitted to him my plan of the same. In the course of the conversation he expressed a favorable opinion of it.

During the halt of the army at Grand Ecore on the 17th of April, General Franklin, having heard that the iron-clad gun-boat Eastport had struck a snag on the preceding day and sunk at a point 9 miles below, gave me a letter of introduction to Admiral Porter and directed me to do all in my power to assist in raising the Eastport, and to communicate to the admiral my plan of constructing a dam to relieve the fleet, with his belief in its practicability; also that he thought it advisable that the admiral should at once confer with General Banks and urge him to make the necessary preparations, send for tools, &c. Nothing further was done until after our arrival at Alexandria. On the 26th, the admiral reached the head of the falls. I examined the river and submitted additional details of the proposed dam. General Franklin approved of them and directed me to see the admiral and again urge upon him the necessity of prevailing upon General Banks to order the work to be commenced immediately. There was no doubt that the entire fleet then above the rapids would be lost unless the plan of raising the water by a dam was adopted and put into execution with all possible vigor. I represented that General Franklin had full confidence in the success of the undertaking, and that the admiral might rely upon him for all the assistance in his power. The only preliminary required was an order from General Banks. On the 29th, by order of General Franklin, I consulted with Generals Banks and Hunter, and explained to them the proposed plan in detail. The latter remarked that, although he had little confidence in its feasibility, he nevertheless thought it better to try the experiment, especially as General Franklin, who is an engineer, advised it. Upon this General Banks issued the necessary order for details, teams, &c., and I commenced the work on the morning of the 30th.

I presume it is sufficient in this report to say that the dam was constructed entirely on the plan first given to General Franklin, and approved by him.

During the first few days I had some difficulty in procuring details, &c., but the officers and men soon gained confidence and labored faithfully. The work progressed rapidly, without accident or interruption, except the breaking away of two coal barges which formed part of the dam. This afterward proved beneficial. In addition to the dam at the foot of the falls, I constructed two wing-dams on each side of the river at the head of the falls.

The width of the river at the point where the dam was built is 758 feet, and the depth of the water from 4 to 6 feet. The current is very rapid, running about 10 miles per hour. The increase of depth by the main dam was 5 feet 4½ inches; by the wing-dams, 1 foot 2 inches; total, 6 feet 6½ inches. On the completion of the dam, we had the gratification of seeing the entire fleet pass over the rapids to a place of safety below, and we found ample reward for our labors in witnessing their result. The army and navy were relieved from a painful suspense, and eight valuable gun-boats saved from destruction. The cheers of the masses assembled on the shore when the boats passed down attested their joy and renewed confidence. To Major-General Franklin, who, previous to the commencement of the

work, was the only supporter of my proposition to save the fleet by means of a dam, and whose persevering efforts caused its adoption, I desire to return my grateful thanks. I trust the country will join with the Army of the Gulf and the Mississippi Squadron in awarding to him due praise for his earnest and intelligent efforts in their behalf. Major-General Banks promptly issued all necessary orders and assisted me by his constant presence and co-operation. General Dwight, his chief of staff, Colonel Wilson and Lieutenant Sargent, aides-de-camp, also rendered valuable assistance by their personal attention to our wants. Admiral Porter furnished a detail from his ships' crews, under command of an excellent officer, Captain Langthorne, of the Mound City. All his officers and men were constantly present, and to their extraordinary exertions and to the well-known energy and ability of the admiral much of the success of the undertaking is due. I am also under many obligations to Major Sentell, provost-marshal, and Lieutenant Williamson, ordnance officer, of General Franklin's staff; to Lieut. Col. W. B. Kinsey, One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers; to Lieut. Col. U. B. Pearsall, Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, who was my assistant; to Capt. George W. Stein, Sixteenth Ohio, and to Captains Harding, Morrison, and Harper, of the Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, all of whom exhibited much practical knowledge and untiring zeal.

The following is a list of the troops who constructed the dam: Pioneer corps of the Thirteenth Army Corps, under Captain Hutchens, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteers, Lieutenant Smout, Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteers, and Lieutenant Kimbley, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteers; Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Emerson; Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Pearsall; Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry, Col. G. D. Robinson; and detachments from the Twenty-third and Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteers, Twenty-seventh Indiana Volunteers, Nineteenth Kentucky Volunteers, Sixteenth and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteers, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteers, Seventy-seventh and One hundred and thirtieth Illinois Volunteers, and from other regiments. These details labored patiently and enthusiastically by day and night, standing waist deep in the water, under a broiling sun. Their reward is the consciousness of having performed their duty as true soldiers, and they deserve the gratitude of their countrymen.*

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY,
Lieut. Col. and Actg. Mil. Eng. 19th Army Corps.

Maj. Wickham Hoffman,
Assistant Adjutant-General, 19th Army Corps.

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Engineer's Office,
New Orleans, La., May 25, 1864.

Major: In pursuance to instructions from the major-general commanding the Department of the Gulf, I have the honor to furnish you the following list of officers, regiments, and detachments which

*A section map, including falls and dam in Red River, prepared by order of Colonel Bailey, will appear in the Atlas.

rendered valuable services in the construction of the dam across Red River at Alexandria, La.:

The first details which reported were the Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry, Col. George D. Robinson, and the Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, Lieut. Col. U. B. Pearsall, whose services were invaluable. Capts. W. H. Morrison, Peter Harper, M. S. Tyler, Frank D. Harding, and First Lieuts. George W. Combs, E. W. Sagendorph, J. F. Turner, and M. G. Wilson, Ninety-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry, are entitled to much credit for their industry and ability shown in the prosecution of this work.

Next was the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Emerson, who was very energetic, and rendered very valuable services.

Next were detachments from the Twenty-seventh Indiana Volunteers, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, Nineteenth Kentucky, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, Eighty-third Ohio, Twenty-fourth Iowa, Twenty-third Wisconsin, Seventy-seventh Illinois, and Sixteenth Ohio, numbering in all 460 men, under command of Capt. George W. Stein, Company A, Sixteenth Ohio Volunteers, who showed much ability, and is entitled to great credit for his industry and energy. Among those detachments were Capt. William M. Ross, Sixteenth Ohio, and Lieut. W. H. Ruckle, Sixteenth Ohio, who are also very valuable officers.

In short, the entire detail was composed of the best of men, and worked faithfully without a murmur. In addition to these details were the pioneer corps of the Thirteenth Army Corps, under command of Capt. John B. Hutchens; Company H, Twenty-fourth Indiana; Lieut. B. Smout, Company K, Twenty-third Wisconsin, and Lieut. Perry D. Kimbley, Company G, Twenty-fourth Indiana, who are entitled to great credit, and deserve reward for their valuable services.

The pioneer corps numbered 125 men, and were detachments from the Eleventh Indiana, Twenty-fourth Indiana, Thirty-fourth Indiana, Forty-sixth Indiana, Forty-seventh Indiana, Sixty-seventh Indiana, Fifty-sixth Ohio, Twenty-eighth Iowa, Twenty-fourth Iowa, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, Twenty-third Wisconsin, Eighty-third Ohio, Ninety-sixth Ohio, Forty-eighth Ohio, One hundred and thirtieth Illinois, and Nineteenth Kentucky, who to a man were invaluable. Among the officers who were detailed to assist in seeing that all orders from department headquarters were promptly obeyed, and in otherwise assisting in facilitating the work, were Colonel Wilson, of the commanding general's staff; Lieut. Col. William B. Kinsey, One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers; Maj. W. H. Sentell, One hundred and sixtieth New York Volunteers; Lieut. S. Smith Fairchild, One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers; and Lieutenant Williamson, One hundred and twenty-eighth New York Volunteers, who rendered very valuable assistance and took great interest in the construction of the work, and are entitled to great credit.

I have the honor, major, to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BAILEY,
Lieut. Col. 4th Wis. Cav. and Actg. Mil. Eng. 19th A. C.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 211. } *Washington, June* 15, 1864.

The following resolution of Congress is published for the information of all concerned:

PUBLIC RESOLUTION.—No. 34.

A resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, of the Fourth Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress be, and they are hereby, tendered to Lieut. Col. Joseph Bailey, of the Fourth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, acting engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps, for distinguished services in the recent campaign on the Red River, by which the gun-boat flotilla under Rear-Admiral David D. Porter was rescued from imminent peril.

SEC. 2. *And be it further resolved*, That the President of the United States be requested to cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey.

Approved June 11, 1864.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 62.

Report of Capt. Henry W. Closson, First U. S. Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Nineteenth Army Corps, of engagement at Monett's Ferry, with itinerary of the Artillery Reserve, March 15–*May* 20.

OFFICE CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, 19TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, West La., Alexandria, April 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Reporting, as directed by General Franklin, to General Emory for duty during the 23d instant, I was by him instructed to make all the necessary arrangements and dispositions and select the positions for the artillery. The following batteries were ordered to be in readiness for service at 4 a. m. of the 23d: First Indiana Heavy Artillery, four 20-pounder Parrotts, Captain Hinkle commanding; First Delaware Battery, six 3-inch rifles, Captain Nields commanding; Twenty-fifth New York Battery, three 3-inch rifles, Lieutenant Southworth commanding; First Vermont Battery, one 3-inch rifle and one 12-pounder, light, Captain Hebard commanding; Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, six light 12-pounders, Lieutenant Taylor commanding; total, twenty-one guns.

The rebels were developed in position on the south bank of Cane River, with their right on the bluff at the ferry crossing, supported by seven guns, and their left on a wooded crest, facing the river road, supported by four guns. Six a. m., Captain Hinkle, with two guns, and Captain Nields, with six, were directed to go into battery and shell the rebel left, necessary to secure ground for demonstrations against his right; range, 2,000 yards. After a half hour's cannonade the rebels ceased to reply, and operations were temporarily suspended to secure concert of action with General Birge's com-

mand. General Emory expressed a desire that I should examine a point of woods opposite the rebel right, with a view of getting guns through the woods and into position there to prevent the use of the rebel artillery against General Birge. I made the examination, selected the position, and ordered in five guns, as follows: Captain Hinkle, with two guns; Captain Hebard, with one gun; Lieutenant Porter, First Delaware, with one gun; Lieutenant Flanders, Twenty-fifth New York, with one gun. Two p. m., with a good deal of labor and under a sharp fire, these officers secured their places and opened upon the rebels with vigor and effect. They abandoned their position after hardly ten minutes' shelling; range, 1,000 yards.

General Birge being in possession of the wooded crest across the river, on the rebel left, the First Delaware Battery was advanced and co-operated with Captain Hinkle. Shortly afterward General Emory occupied the ferry crossing the opposite side of the river, and Captain Hebard took possession of a battery wagon complete, left by the rebels in their flight. I should mention that a section of Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Baldwin commanding, co-operated for a short time with the First Delaware Battery. Casualties, none. Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, was held in reserve.

I must acknowledge the very valuable assistance rendered me by Colonel Chrysler, Second New York [Veteran] Cavalry, who went in with his men dismounted and felt out the enemy's force and position along the river bank. The general will recollect that I requested of him, as special support to the artillery sent through the woods against the rebel right, the One hundred and sixteenth New York Infantry, Colonel Love commanding, and I am happy to report that in the handsome manner habitual to him and his men he disposed of an attempt on the part of the rebels to cross the river and take the guns. Please express to the general my thanks for the courtesy and kindness extended to me while I had the pleasure of serving under him.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY W. CLOSSON,

Capt. First U. S. Arty., Chief of Arty., 19th Army Corps.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., General Emory's Command.

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*Itinerary of the Artillery Reserve, Nineteenth Army Corps, March 15–May 20.**

March 15.—Marched from Franklin on the Opelousas road; 16 miles.

March 16.—Marched to Camp Pratt; 18 miles.

March 17.—Marched to Vermillion Bayou; 16 miles.

March 18.—Marched 1 mile beyond Carrion Crow Bayou; 16 miles.

March 19.—Marched to near Washington; 16 miles.

March 20.—Marched 17 miles.

March 22.—Marched to Holmesville; 14 miles.

March 23.—Marched to Cheneyville; 13 miles.

March 24.—Marched to Wells' plantation; 17 miles.

March 25.—Marched to Alexandria; 13 miles.

March 28.—Marched from Alexandria on Natchitoches road; 18 miles.

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* From returns for March, April, and May.

March 29.—Marched to pine woods; 9 miles.

March 30.—Marched to Cane River; 21 miles.

March 31.—Marched 7 miles and encamped in the woods. Capt. John W. Day, of the First Indiana Artillery, Company B, with 83 enlisted men, was relieved from duty with this command, and ordered to report to commanding officer at Baton Rouge by Special Orders, No. 58, headquarters Department of the Gulf.

April 1.—Marched to camp on Cane River; 16 miles.

April 2.—Marched to Natchitoches; 5 miles.

April 6.—Marched 14 miles.

April 7.—Marched to Pleasant Hill; 22 miles.

April 8.—Marched 10 miles.

April 9.—Marched back to Pleasant Hill; 10 miles. The First Vermont Battery was engaged in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La. Lost 5 horses.

April 10.—Marched 21 miles.

April 11.—Marched to Grand Ecore; 14 miles.

April 12.—The First Delaware Battery was transferred to the First Division, and the First Vermont Battery was transferred to the Artillery Reserve.

April 22 to 25.—Marched to Alexandria. Remained until present date. Four guns of the First Indiana Artillery were engaged at the battle of Monett's Ferry, on the 23d. No casualties.

May 13.—Artillery Reserve marched from Alexandria, La.

May 15.—Four 20-pounders of First Indiana Artillery engaged at Marksville Plains.

May 16.—The First Vermont Battery on duty with cavalry.

May 18.—Engaged at Yellow Bayou under General Mower; two gun carriages disabled.

May 19.—Crossed the Atchafalaya River and marched to present station.

May 20.—Returned to duty with the Nineteeenth Army Corps, and marched from Simsport to Morganza, and remained to present date; distance, 34 miles.

No. 63.

Report of Capt. Benjamin Nields, First Delaware Battery.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DELAWARE BATTERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the First Delaware Battery, from the time it left Franklin, March 15, 1864, was placed in the Reserve Artillery of the Nineteenth Army Corps, where it remained throughout the march to Alexandria, hence to Natchitoches and Pleasant Hill. That on the evening of the 8th instant it was ordered on the battle-field at Sabine Cross-Roads, but before it reached the field it was ordered to return to Pleasant Hill; that it took no part in the engagement at Pleasant Hill on the following day, but pursuant to orders proceeded to march to Grand Ecore, where it arrived on the evening of the 10th, and where it still remains.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. NIELDS,
Captain First Delaware Battery.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 64.

Report of Capt. William S. Hinkle, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, of engagement at Blair's Landing.

HDQRS. DETACHED BATTALION, FIRST INDIANA ARTY.,
April 14, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor herein to report that the 30-pounder battery of four guns on board steamer Rob Roy, under command of Lieut. Robert Fuller, became engaged with the enemy about 25 or 30 miles above this place at various points along the river, successfully driving the enemy away in every case, killing and wounding large numbers of them, and among others General Green, of C. S. Army, is reported to have been seen to fall from a discharge of canister. Lieut. Jesse Hadden being under arrest by your order, Lieutenant Fuller was in command for about an hour and a half after the action began, when, after his being wounded in the thigh (flesh wound), Lieutenant Hadden was released from arrest and placed on duty, and commanded during the remainder of the action. The conduct of the officers and men in action was creditable to all, not a man failing to do his full duty. Our casualties were, wounded, Second Lieut. Robert Fuller, Company G, and 3 privates, none mortally. Ammunition expended on the 12th and 13th instant was 260 rounds. The whole of the 30-pounder canister having been exhausted, the officers in command resorted to the use of the 20-pounder canister on board, using double charges with great effect. The guns are in good condition. I herewith inclose a field report to you of the exact state of my command. I have with both batteries 4 officers, 8 sergeants, 15 corporals, and 165 privates for duty.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

W. S. HINKLE,
Capt. First Indiana Arty., Comdg. Detached Battalion.

[Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery.]

No. 65.

Reports of Lieut. Franck E. Taylor, Battery L, First U. S. Artillery.

BATTERY L, FIRST U. S. ARTILLERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your instructions, I have the honor to transmit herewith a report of the proceedings and movements of Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, since leaving Natchitoches, La., on April 6, 1864. The battery moved from Natchitoches with the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, at 8 a. m. on the 6th instant, marched some 12 miles, and went into camp on the roadside. Moved the next morning at 6 a. m., marched to Pleasant Hill, La., and went into camp. Moved the next morning at 8 a. m., marched some 10 miles, and went into camp. At 5 p. m. on the same day, 8th April, 1864, by order of Capt. H. W. Closson, chief of artillery, Nineteenth Corps, [moved] the battery up the Mansfield road toward the front until halted by order of Brigadier-General Arnold, chief of artil-

lery, Department of the Gulf, delivered by Lieut. J. A. Sanderson, First U. S. Artillery. Remained on the Mansfield road until the army fell back, when the battery moved to the rear with the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

At 7 a. m. on the 9th instant went into position, by order of Captain Closson, chief of artillery, Nineteenth Corps, on the crest of a hill, near Pleasant Hill, La., supported by the First Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Corps. Remained in position until relieved by the Twenty-fifth New York Battery, when the battery, by order of Brigadier-General Emory, moved to the rear and went into park. On the opening of the engagement of April 9, 1864, by order of Brigadier-General Smith, the battery went into position on the left of General Smith's right battery. After remaining in this position for some three minutes the battery, by order of General Emory, moved down near the advance line, where it was placed in position by General Emory, who at the same time ordered the right section, under command of Lieut. E. L. Appleton, First U. S. Artillery, to move over to the right of the main road to report to Brigadier-General Dwight. The remainder of the battery, four guns, remained in their position until the left of the infantry line being driven back, the left flank of the battery was completely uncovered and exposed to the fire of the enemy, who had advanced in line to within 40 yards of it. The infantry having fallen back, and there being no support whatever for the battery, which was in imminent danger of capture, the pieces were ordered to be limbered to the rear for the purpose of withdrawing them. At this time the horses of the limbers were nearly all either killed or wounded, and it was impossible to draw off but one piece, which was placed in position some 60 yards to the right of the other pieces and covering them. This piece was afterward still further withdrawn to the line of infantry, then forming some 50 yards in its rear. On the advance of the Sixteenth Army Corps this piece was again thrown forward on the original line of the battery. The three pieces were withdrawn by hand, refitted with the caisson limbers from the rear, and were afterward used on the main road, supported by troops from the Sixteenth Army Corps. For the proceedings of the right section, on the right of the main road, I have the honor to refer to the report of Lieutenant Appleton, commanding it, which is herewith inclosed.

The battery moved to the rear at 2 a. m. on the 10th instant, with the First Division, Nineteenth Corps; marched 17 miles and went into camp. Moved next morning at 6 a. m., and reached Grand Ecore, La., same day and went into camp in its present position.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCK E. TAYLOR,
Lieut., First U. S. Artillery, Commanding Battery L.

Chief of Artillery,
First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

Battery L, First U. S. Artillery,
Alexandria, La., April 29, 1864.

Sir: In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of Battery L, First Artillery, since leaving Alexandria, La., on March 28, 1864, and its

subsequent arrival at Grand Ecore, La., on the 11th of April, 1864: The battery left Alexandria with the troops of the Nineteenth Army Corps on the 28th of March, and arrived at Natchitoches, La., on April 2, 1864. Remained in camp at Natchitoches until April 6, 1864, when the column moved upon the Mansfield road. On the night of April 8, 1864, moved up to within 2 miles of the field of Sabine Cross-Roads. When the army fell back on the same night the battery retired with General Emory's rear brigade. On the opening of the engagement at Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864, by order of Brigadier-General Smith, the battery went into position on the left of General Smith's right battery. After remaining in this position for some three minutes, the battery, by order of Brigadier-General Emory, moved down near the advance line, where it was placed in position by General Emory, who at the same time directed the right section, under command of Lieut. E. L. Appleton, Battery L, First Artillery, to move over to the right of the main road to report to Brigadier-General Dwight. The remainder of the battery, four guns, remained in their position until the left of the infantry line being driven back, the left flank of the battery was completely uncovered and exposed to the fire of the enemy, who had advanced to within 40 yards of it. The infantry having fallen back, and there being no support whatever for the battery, which was in imminent danger of capture, the pieces were ordered to be limbered to the rear for the purpose of withdrawing them. At this time the horses were nearly all killed or wounded, and it was impossible to draw off but one piece, which was placed in position some 60 yards to the right of the other pieces and covering them. On the advance of the Sixteenth Army Corps this piece was again thrown forward on the original line of the battery. The three pieces were withdrawn by hand, refitted with the caisson limbers, and were afterward used on the main road, supported by troops from the Sixteenth Corps. For the movements of the right section I have the honor to refer to the report of Lieutenant Appleton, First U. S. Artillery, commanding it, which is herewith inclosed. The battery moved to the rear at 2 a. m. on the 10th April with the First Division, Nineteenth Corps, and went into camp at Grand Ecore, La., on the 11th April, 1864.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

FRANCK E. TAYLOR,
First Lieut., First U. S. Artillery, Comdg. Battery L.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 66.

Report of Lieut. Edward L. Appleton, Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY L, FIRST ARTILLERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the right section of Battery L, during the action of the 9th of April at Pleasant Hill: The section having reported to Brigadier-General Dwight as ordered, he said he could see no place where we could be of use and

told me to take the section back, but directly after ordered that it should be halted. Accordingly it was halted in the road some distance in rear of the infantry. Soon after the enemy charged across the open field in our rear and through the woods on the flank of us, and in reversing the pieces in order to get into position, both poles were broken and it became impossible to unlimber them so that they could be fired. The road at that point was very narrow, and the carriage wheels in a ditch. In the mean time the enemy were advancing upon our flank and rear, keeping up a hot fire of musketry, and I found it impossible to get the pieces in position to fire, though the most strenuous efforts were made by the cannoneers to do so. I therefore ordered, when the enemy were within a few yards of the guns, that the horses be unhitched and the cannoneers to fall back with them from the attack. Shortly after the enemy were repulsed and the pieces drawn to the rear to be repaired, having been temporarily disabled in order to prevent the enemy from using them against us. The caisson horses were mostly killed or wounded in the charge; otherwise repairs were easily effected, and the section was ready for action again early in the evening.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. L. APPLETON,
First Lieutenant, First U. S. Artillery.

Lieut. Franck E. Taylor,
Commanding Battery L, First U. S. Artillery.

No. 67.

Reports of Capt. George T. Hebard, First Vermont Battery.

Headquarters First Vermont Battery,
In the Field, Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part sustained by my battery during the engagements of the 8th and 9th instant: The batteries of the First Division were ordered to remain at the saw-mill on the 8th instant, by order of Brigadier-General Emory, commanding First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, until further orders. At 7 p. m., the 8th, my battery was ordered to the front by Captain Closson, chief of artillery, Nineteenth Army Corps, with orders to report to Brigadier-General Arnold, chief of artillery, Department of the Gulf, which order I endeavored to obey, but the roads were so completely blocked with cavalry and baggage wagons that after working until past midnight, when within about 2 miles of the division, I was, by order of General Stone, through Lieutenant Sanderson, ordered to halt. About 1 a. m., the 9th, I was ordered by Captain Closson, through Captain Nields, First Delaware Battery, to reverse my battery and retire to Pleasant Hill with General Cameron's division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, which I did, arriving at Pleasant Hill at 8 a. m. the 9th instant, where I bivouacked until 1 p. m., when, by order of Brigadier-General Arnold, I took position on the left of the road leading to Natchitoches, and on the right of the Third Brigade, First Division. At 3.15 p. m. I was ordered by Brigadier-General Arnold to open fire on the enemy's artillery, which resulted in dismounting a 10-pounder Parrott in use by the

enemy. Shortly after the enemy charged in force upon my battery, but opening a severe fire of canister upon them at short range, I did great execution, checking their advance. My support on the right, the Eighty-ninth Indiana, advancing at the same time, the enemy were repulsed and driven back. Lieutenant Rice, with the right section of my battery, was now ordered to re-enforce Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, on the right and near the Mansfield road, but owing to the ground and the position of our own forces could not be used to advantage. The remainder of the battery advanced toward the right and center, and opened on the enemy at different points during the remainder of the action. The battery remained in position on the field until about 2 a. m. the 10th instant, when, by order of Brigadier-General Emory, I rejoined the First Division, and retired with the army to Grand Ecore, La. The casualties of the battery were but slight, 1 man severely wounded, and 5 horses killed and wounded. The officers and men acted with great coolness and courage, even when the enemy were within 50 yards, and speaking distance; not an officer or man left his post.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. T. HEBARD,
Captain, Commanding First Vermont Battery.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Div., Nineteenth Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 15, 1864.

On forwarding these reports I have to lament the loss of Lieutenant Sanderson, Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, who fell at his post while bravely defending his pieces against the assault of the enemy in the engagement of the 9th instant at Pleasant Hill.

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST VERMONT BATTERY,
Grand Ecore, La., April 17, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to instructions from your office, April 17, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my battery since leaving Franklin, March 15, 1864:

On Tuesday, March 15, by command of Brigadier-General Emory, I left Franklin and marched to within 15 miles of New Iberia. On the 16th, I marched to Camp Pratt, and encamped with our division. On the 17th, bivouacked on Vermillion Bayou; the 18th, encamped near Carrion Crow Bayou; the 19th, passed through Opelousas and Washington, and encamped on Bayou Coteau; the 20th, remained in camp; the 21st, marched to Chotier's plantation; the 22d, bivouacked near Holmesville; 23d, bivouacked near Cheneyville; the 24th, marched to and encamped on Bayou Roberts; 25th, arrived at Alexandria at 2 p. m.; encamped at Alexandria until the 28th, when we marched to Bayou Rapides, about 16 miles; 29th, marched about 6 miles; the 30th, marched about 10 miles; 31st, marched to Cloutierville; April 1, forded Cane River, and marched about 10 miles;

April 2, encamped at Natchitoches; remained in Natchitoches until April 6, then marched about 16 miles; April 7, marched to Pleasant Hill; April 8, marched to the saw-mill, 5 miles from the Sabine Cross-Roads, bivouacked, and by order of General Emory remained in reserve until further orders. About sundown I was ordered to the front to report to Brigadier-General Arnold by Captain Closson, chief of artillery, Nineteenth Army Corps. The roads were so blocked with cavalry and the wagon train that after working until past midnight, by order of Captain Closson, through Captain Nields, First Delaware Battery, I reversed my battery and retired to Pleasant Hill, with General Cameron's division, and bivouacked about 8 o'clock, April 9. At about 12 o'clock, by order of Brigadier-General Arnold, I took position on the left of the Natchitoches road with four pieces, and placed two pieces on the hill covering the left flank of the line. Soon after the action commenced I commenced firing upon the enemy, directing the fire of the left section on the enemy's artillery, which resulted in dismounting a 10-pounder Parrott and in silencing the artillery fire from that quarter. In the mean time the rest of the battery kept up a brisk fire on the enemy, who were advancing on the battery. The enemy came within range of canister which I ordered fired from the whole battery, which checked their advance, when my support, the Eighty-ninth Indiana, charged and drove them from the ground. The right section, Lieutenant Rice's, was then ordered to re-enforce Battery L, [First U. S. Artillery,] but was not engaged, owing to nature of the ground and the position of our forces. The remainder of the battery moved forward and was held in readiness for any point, but were not called upon. Both officers and men behaved with coolness and bravery under the hottest fire; no one left his post or sought cover. My loss was trifling; but 1 man seriously wounded, and 5 horses killed and wounded. On the morning of the 10th, by order of Brigadier-General Emory, I joined the division, and 2 a. m. commenced the march for Grand Ecore, which town we reached on the 11th of April.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. T. HEBARD,
Captain, Commanding First Vermont Battery.

Brig. Gen. Richard Arnold,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

Headquarters First Vermont Battery,
Camp near Morganza, La., May 24, 1864.

General:

* * * * * * *

While at Grand Ecore my battery was, by order of Captain Closson, transferred from the First Division to the Reserve Artillery of the corps, and my guns were sent away on detached service as guards on board transports during their trips to Alexandria and down the river. I received orders to fall back to Alexandria April 22, but had but two guns, as my others had not yet rejoined the battery from detached service. On arriving at Cane River, April 23, the enemy were found posted on a bluff at the crossing and with seven pieces of artillery in position commanding it, with a large force of mounted infantry as support. In connection with the forces of

General Birge, who crossed the river above their position to flank them, I was ordered to take one section of my battery, under Lieutenant Rice, and three pieces of heavier caliber (20-pounder Parrotts) belonging to the First Indiana Heavy Artillery, and engage the enemy. The action commenced with General Birge engaging the enemy, when I at once opened on the artillery in my front. The action was severe, lasting about two hours, when the enemy retreated from their position, leaving as a trophy to the First Vermont a battery wagon filled with supplies, which was brought off the field by Sergt. John Howland. Several prisoners were also taken. I crossed the river with a section of my battery and one gun each from the Twenty-fifth New York and First Delaware Batteries, and with them, in connection with the Second New York Veteran Cavalry, pursued the enemy until midnight with but little success, it being in a dense pine forest. The remainder of the division coming up early on the morning of the 24th, the march was continued to Alexandria, arriving there the 25th at 4 p. m., having met with no further opposition from the enemy. The casualties of the battery during the action at Cane River were very slight, but 2 or 3 horses wounded. By order of Captain Closson, April 28, I was placed on detached service and went to New Orleans on duty, leaving my battery in command of Lieutenant Rice, and did not rejoin the battery again until May 22. At Alexandria two guns in charge of Sergeants Vilmire and Rice rejoined their command from detached service and reported having had a few slight skirmishes with guerrillas, but no casualties. Sergeant Emery, in charge of one gun on board transport Laurel Hill, had a very severe engagement of about two hours' duration the 2d of May, about 25 miles below Alexandria, with about 500 mounted infantry and one piece of artillery, but succeeded in driving them off with great loss and dismounting their gun, with no casualties to the battery. Marched from Alexandria May 12. Our forces met the enemy at Marksville the 16th, but my battery took no active part. After the engagement was over my battery was ordered to report to Colonel Lucas, commanding the advance guard of cavalry. Marched with the advance guard, arriving at Simsport and joining the Reserve Artillery the 17th May. The 18th day of May Lieutenant Rice received orders from Captain Closson to report with four guns to Brigadier-General Mower, of the Sixteenth Army Corps, commanding rear guard, at Yellow Bayou, and was by him ordered into position near Bayou De Glaize and on the left of the First Delaware Battery. Lieutenant Rice having been ordered to report to General Mower in person, the battery was placed in position by Lieutenant Greenleaf, under a very severe fire from three of the enemy's batteries, which concentrated their fire upon the position he was to occupy. Getting in position, he engaged the enemy's batteries for thirty minutes, when, by order of General Mower, the infantry retired, followed by the battery about 1,000 yards, where it again went into position. At 2 a. m. the 19th, by order of General Mower, fell back 2 miles, going into position near Bayou De Glaize, lying until 3 a. m. the 20th, when, by order of General Mower, retired and crossing Yellow Bayou went into position on its east bank. At 9 a. m. engaged the enemy for two hours at long range, getting but few shots in return. At 2 p. m., no enemy appearing, retired slowly to Simsport, and crossing the Atchafalaya River, rejoined the Reserve Artillery of the Nineteenth Army Corps and marched to Morganza, arriving May 23,

The casualties of the battery during the engagements at Yellow Bayou were none. The battery was highly commended by General Mower for its efficiency. The battery has fought in all the engagements since the first day (April 7), and in every case has proved from what State it came. The officers and men behaved with determined courage. Lieutenants Rice and Greenleaf were of the greatest assistance and deserve especial mention. Private Peter Lemwin, of Plainfield, deserves promotion for bravery. The battery is now at Morganza, after a march of nearly 500 miles, and having participated in six engagements, in good condition and still ready.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE T. HEBARD,
Capt. 1st Vt. Batty., Chief 19th A. C. Reserve Artillery.

PETER T. WASHBURN,
Adjt. and Insp. Gen. of Vermont, Woodstock, Vt.

No. 68.

Reports of Brig. Gen. James W. McMillan, U. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade and First Division, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads, Pleasant Hill, and Monett's Ferry, with itinerary of division, April 1–30.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that my brigade, in pursuance of orders received from division headquarters, marched from Natchitoches at 9 a. m., April 6, and encamped about 8.30 p. m. at Bayou Mayon, a distance of about 18 miles from Natchitoches, on the route to Pleasant Hill. In obedience to orders, my brigade resumed the march at 8 a. m. on the 7th, and went into camp at Pleasant Hill about 6 p. m. Resuming the march about 7 a. m. on the 8th, it went into camp at saw-mill, about 6 miles from Pleasant Hill, on the road to Mansfield, at about 12 noon. At about 3 p. m. I received orders to proceed to the front as rapidly as possible, and at about 5.30 p. m. went into line of battle, in rear of First Brigade of this division, at a distance of about 5 miles from saw-mill on the Mansfield road. About 1 mile to the rear of the ground where line of battle was formed, I encountered a dense mass of disorganized cavalry, moving to the rear, in utter confusion, and only succeeded in getting through by the use of the bayonet. I am sorry to be compelled to report that there were officers who exclaimed in great confusion, "All is lost," "You had better turn back," "We are badly whipped," &c., but I am proud to say my men gave but little heed to the cowardly remarks made to them. By direction of the division commander my brigade was held in reserve, in rear of First Brigade, but before the action commenced it was deemed prudent to change the disposition of a part of the brigade, and the Fifteenth Maine and One hundred and sixtieth New York were ordered up in continuation and on the left of the line of the First Brigade, to fill a gap between the First and Third Brigades. These two regiments got into the new position just as the enemy opened fire, but without confusion. Their position was not again changed until the action ended. The Forty-seventh Pennsylvania and the Thirteenth Maine were the right regiments of the brigade, and were not engaged until about 6.15 p. m., when I discovered a very considerable force of the

rebels turning our right flank. I immediately reported to Major-General Franklin, and asked if any of our troops were retiring past our right flank. On being told that any troops in that direction were rebels, I immediately ordered the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania and Thirteenth Maine into line perpendicular to the original line of battle, and on the extreme right, and in a few moments drove off the rebels' flanking force, and saw them no more. Prisoners told me that the flanking force was Polignac's brigade, and had been ordered to turn our right flank, but was ordered back or driven back. In changing the position of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania and Thirteenth Maine there was some confusion, but only temporary, and both did well as soon as they got into position. The Fifteenth Maine and One hundred and sixtieth New York did well and repelled the rebel force in their front in splendid style. The action closed on the right at about 6.45 p. m., and a short time after the rebel fire had ceased in front. The Forty-seventh Pennsylvania lost 1 officer and 3 men killed, 11 men wounded, mostly slightly, and 15 men missing; the Thirteenth Maine, 2 men killed, 7 wounded, and 5 missing; the Fifteenth Maine, 1 man killed, 4 wounded, and 10 missing; the One hundred and sixtieth New York, 1 man killed, 2 wounded, and 1 officer and 6 men missing.

About 9 p. m. I was ordered to be ready to march at 10 p. m., leaving the pickets to be brought in by a reliable officer from each regiment at 12 o'clock midnight, and join the rear brigade. All were safely brought in but 1 officer and 7 men, put into a gap, at first overlooked and not known of by the officer left to bring them in. The officer remained until sunrise Saturday, and then marched to camp with his men. My brigade marched at about 10.30 p. m. in the direction of Pleasant Hill, where it arrived about 10 a. m. on Saturday, the 9th instant, and went into line of battle in the edge of the timber about three-fourths of a mile from Pleasant Hill, but was relieved by a brigade of the Sixteenth Army Corps, and by direction of division commander, went into position on our extreme right, where it remained until the action commenced, Saturday, the 9th. Soon after the action became general I received an order from division commander to put my brigade in position on the right of the First Brigade, and had established the Thirteenth Maine when the left of our line in the field gave way, my other regiments yet moving, when I received an order from division commander to go to the support of the faltering line as soon as possible. I immediately placed myself at the head of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania and was moving at double-quick when it received a volley from the rebels, who had charged through the open field and taken possession of some houses near my position, when it broke in confusion, running through the One hundred and sixtieth New York and Fifteenth Maine. I immediately rode up to the gallant little One hundred and sixtieth and asked them to hold their position, as all depended on them. While in their front talking to them they received a withering fire, killing 2 captains, wounding 1, and 2 lieutenants, and killing and wounding several men. I ordered the Fifteenth Maine to advance, and while it was doing so I succeeded in rallying most of the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania, with the assistance of the lieutenant-colonel and most of the line officers. I then advanced with the above three regiments, and sent a staff officer to order up the Thirteenth Maine, which had been ordered on the immediate right of the First Brigade. As soon as I began to advance in good order the rebels began to retreat, and

my regiments followed in good style, inflicting severe punishment, driving them across the field and for a long distance into the woods. In the charge into the woods, the One hundred and sixtieth New York captured one section of a rebel battery, and some regiment of the Sixteenth Army Corps on my left captured two more sections. I had two of the guns moved into the field, and was told they were brought off, but four of the guns remained in the woods in consequence of being too badly disabled to be drawn off by the infantry.

We drove the enemy in utter confusion for a long distance into the woods, and until I was fearful of being cut off; but on investigation I soon found the rout of the rebels was so complete no further danger need be apprehended at that time, and as darkness approached I ordered the regiments reformed in the field near the woods, except the One hundred and sixtieth New York, which was left in the field at General Mower's request, it being in line with one of his regiments. It was not moved until I was ordered to move my brigade into the position it last occupied previous to the action.

I regret, while giving expression to my admiration of the steady courage of my officers and men, that I am compelled to except some of my field officers and one line officer, whose conduct was unpardonable. Many noble deeds of daring came under my notice, but I cannot detail them. I will only mention Major Sizer, of division staff; Capts. Oscar P. Hervey, John A. Lynch, Henry P. Underhill, and John T. Metcalf, whose conduct was worthy the highest praise and admiration. My staff did its whole duty.

In the action of Saturday the Forty-seventh Pennsylvania lost 4 men killed, 24 men wounded, and 34 missing (since reduced to 21 missing); the Thirteenth Maine lost 3 men killed, 1 officer and 20 men wounded, and 21 missing; the Fifteenth Maine lost 3 officers and 9 men wounded, and the One hundred and sixtieth New York lost 2 officers killed and 4 wounded, 5 men killed and 22 wounded, and 14 missing. In obedience to orders from division commander, at about 2 a. m. on the 10th instant, my brigade resumed the march to the rear and encamped on old camp-ground on Bayou Mayon, about 3 p. m. Resuming the march at 6 a. m. the 11th, arrived in its present position at Grand Ecore about 3 p. m. of same day. The reports of regimental commanders will be forwarded as soon as received, and a full list of casualties furnished as soon as received.

Respectfully submitted.

JAS. W. McMILLAN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Capt. D. S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, April 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following facts relating to my command on the 23d and 24th instant: About 5 a. m. of the 23d, I was placed in command of the First Division, to enable Brigadier-General Emory to take command of all the forces to be used in dislodging the enemy from the heights at the lower crossing of Cane River, on the road to Shreveport from Alexandria. Said heights being held by a strong force of the enemy, and they being naturally extremely strong, it was regarded very difficult to dislodge them. Brigadier-General Emory ordered me to march rapidly down to the

vicinity of the ford in rear of the cavalry force under Brigadier-General Arnold. Slight skirmishing was heard in front, but no enemy seen by my command until, within about 2,000 yards above the ford, the enemy opened on our cavalry with two guns from a high hill on the opposite bank of the river, at a distance of about 1,000 yards from the advance of my command. Being close on the cavalry, so as to give them prompt support, I was ordered to halt by the commanding general and await orders. About 1,000 yards to the rear of this position I was ordered by General Emory to send forward the One hundred and sixteenth and One hundred and fifty-third Regiments New York Volunteers, Colonel Love, as skirmishers, and on halting, as above stated, General Emory ordered the First Brigade, Colonel Beal commanding, forward into the woods on the left front to support the skirmishers and batteries, where it was placed about 10 a. m., and there remained until the enemy were driven from the ford, when the First Brigade was advanced, and I was ordered by General Emory to send the Second Brigade, Colonel Rust commanding, to advance to support the First, and by alternate and gradual approaches I occupied the field at the ford with First and Second Brigades, and the hill on opposite side, lately held by the enemy, by two regiments, One hundred and sixteenth New York and ——, Brigadier-General Emory personally superintending the movements usually. The Second Brigade was shelled while in rear of the batteries engaged shelling the rebel battery on the hill, and 3 men slightly wounded, but no trepidation was manifested by officers or men. A list of casualties will be forwarded as soon as received. My staff did their duty well, and I cannot in justice omit to honorably mention Capt. J. A. Lynch, Twenty-sixth Massachusetts, and acting assistant inspector-general, and John T. Metcalf, my volunteer aide, for coolness and courage displayed in discharge of their duties. I also beg leave to state, for the information of the brigadier-general commanding, that he owes much to Captain Lynch's persistent bravery in getting the battery into position, that finally, by a few well-directed shots, expelled the rebels from the ford.

About 9 p. m. of the 23d, in pursuance to orders from General Emory, I moved with my command in the direction of Alexandria, continuing the march about 7 miles, when I encamped at about midnight and resumed the march at 6 a. m.; continued until about 9 a. m. of the 24th, when I ascertained I was on the wrong road. While bewildered about the road General Emory arrived and resumed command of the division. I was led off the Henderson's Hill road by Colonel Chrysler, of the Second New York [Veteran] Cavalry, who had joined me about 7 a. m., 24th. General Emory directed me to continue on the road I had taken, and found my blunder had proved beneficial rather than injurious. After leaving Cane River I saw no enemy, but heard of a small force, estimated at from 200 to 500 men, badly discouraged and anxiously inquiring for a road leading to Texas. In obedience to orders, I ordered Colonel Chrysler to go forward to Henderson's Hill, occupy, and feed his horses, and communicate with General Grover and report facts. Before getting his report I was relieved of command of the division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. W. McMILLAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. D. S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Itinerary of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, April 1–30.*

April 1.—The division marched from a point 3 miles in rear of Monett's Ferry, Cane River, La.; crossed the ferry and encamped at Cloutier's plantation, about 18 miles.

April 2.—Reached Natchitoches, La.

April 6.—Left Natchitoches; marched to Bayou Dupont, about 15 miles.

April 7.—Marched to Pleasant Hill, about 17 miles.

April 8.—Marched to bayou, about 8 miles; halted there by orders from corps headquarters. About 4 p. m. received orders to march toward Mansfield, La., to re-enforce the Cavalry Division and Thirteenth Corps, then hotly engaged. Arrived there about 5.30 p. m.; engaged and repulsed the enemy; marched about 10 p. m., bringing up the rear of the army, to Pleasant Hill.

April 9.—About 5 p. m. was attacked by the enemy and repulsed them.

April 10.—At 2 a. m. marched to Grand Ecore, La.

April 22.—Marched from Grand Ecore to Cloutierville.

April 23.—Brigadier-General Emory having been ordered to assume command of the army to attack the enemy's position at Cane River Ferry, Brigadier-General McMillan assumed command of the division, and during the engagement supported the artillery and skirmished with the enemy. At night moved across the ferry about 5 miles.

April 24.—Marched about 17 miles; encamped on Bayou Rapides.

April 25.—Marched to Alexandria, where the division is now, April 30, stationed.

No. 69.

Report of Brig. Gen. William Dwight, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: This command marched from Natchitoches on the morning of the 6th April, in obedience to orders from the headquarters of the division. It encamped late on the same evening just beyond the bayou bridge on the road from Natchitoches to Mansfield, and about 16 miles from Natchitoches. This march was a fatiguing one, because of the delays caused by it coming in contact with many trains, much artillery, and the Thirteenth Army Corps on the road. The brigade marched early the next morning for Pleasant Hill, where it encamped between 4 and 5 o'clock that afternoon on ground selected by the division commander. The brigade marched next morning at 8 a. m., and bivouacked beyond the saw-mill on the Mansfield road, about 8 miles from Pleasant Hill, by orders from headquarters. The brigade remained in this bivouac for about two hours.

At about 3 p. m. orders were received from the division commander to get in readiness to move to the front, with canteens filled

* From return for April.

with water, and hard bread, coffee, and sugar for two days. Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, which had encamped with the brigade, was with the wagon train left at this point, and the One hundred and fifty-third Regiment New York Volunteers, of this brigade, was left as a guard for the train and artillery of the division. The brigade marched in the following order: The One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers in advance, from which four companies were detached as an advance guard for the division, followed by the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, the One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers, and the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, in the order in which they are here mentioned. As the brigade proceeded on this march, the firing in the front became heavier, and the rumors from the field were of disaster, and indicated that the presence of the command was necessary. Its march was hastened in consequence. Soon fugitives from the field appeared, consisting, at first, principally of negroes with spare horses, followed by cavalrymen and wagons. Acting on instructions from the brigadier-general commanding the division, these fugitives were checked and turned back, but their number continuing to increase, two companies from the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers were marched in line of battle on each side of the column. In this order the command reached the top of a hill, where it met the whole of that portion of the army which had preceded it, in utter rout and panic, flying before the enemy, who were in hot pursuit. On the crest of this hill the brigadier-general commanding the division directed that the line of battle should be formed. In face of the rout of the army, this became a difficult task, for through the brigade column in many places rushed cavalry, artillery, and wagons in frightful confusion. The companies of the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers were utterly unable to protect the flanks of this column. One of these companies joined its regiment; the other joined the column of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers. The whole of the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, with the exception of the company driven into the column of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, followed the brigadier-general commanding the division in advance of the line on which he had directed that the brigade should be deployed, and this regiment was used by the brigadier-general commanding the division in checking the advance of the enemy and covering the deployment. There were thus left but three regiments of this brigade to be immediately posted. The One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers was placed on the right, with the One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers on its left, and the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers on the left of the line, and stretching across the road upon which the routed army was passing. After being posted, these regiments were directed to remain firmly in their positions, to reserve their fire until the last moment, and to fire as low as possible. The first attack of the enemy was made upon the front of this line, and was repulsed by its steady and withering fire.

This attack had barely subsided when a body of the enemy appeared to be moving toward the right flank of the brigade. Some shots from their direction falling upon the right flank of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers caused some confusion in its ranks. I went immediately to the right of the line to restore order, when I found certain troops on the right of the One

hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, belonging, apparently, to several different regiments, whose names and numbers are unknown to me, in much greater confusion than that which existed in the ranks of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers. I endeavored to rally the men on my right, and to move them on to the line of battle, when a few shots from the enemy falling among them, they began to fire wildly in the air and to fall back. After a few moments they became calmer, a portion of them moved up to the line of battle, and by this time order seemed to be restored on the right of this brigade. I immediately went to the left of the brigade. On my way to this point I found the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, which had retired from in front of the brigade line of battle, formed in rear of the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, and I directed it to the right of the line to render that secure against further disorder. Perceiving that the enemy were about to make a similar demonstration on the left, I went to that point, rectified the alignment of certain regiments which I found there belonging to other brigades, and remained there and on the line of this brigade until the heavy firing ceased, and the enemy were repulsed in every attack. As I passed frequently along the line I had occasion to note accurately the conduct of all the regiments, and with the exception of the momentary disorder which occurred in the ranks of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers too much praise cannot be awarded them for their firmness and good conduct, but especial praise is due to the officers and soldiers of the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, whose conduct left nothing to be desired.

After firing had ceased strong pickets were thrown to the front of this brigade, and many prisoners were taken by them. They were carefully directed on no account to fire, but to use all their exertions to capture. In the stillness of evening which followed nothing was to be heard at first but the groans of the wounded and dying in front of this position, mingled with the shouts of the enemy over the spoils found in the wagons which they had captured. These sounds were followed by the rumbling of wagons going to the enemy's rear. Mean time my pickets and the prisoners they captured gave accurate information of the movement of the enemy's infantry and cavalry, all of which indicated that the position was to be attacked at early dawn. Between 9 and 10 p. m. I was informed of the intention to retire the army to Pleasant Hill, and at the same time the brigadier-general commanding the division charged this brigade with the duty of bringing up the rear. As the brigade pickets were within a few feet of those of the enemy, to do this without his knowledge was a difficult operation. I sent for the commanding officers of the different regiments and gave them the most minute instructions as to the proceeding. The remainder of the army having retired shortly before midnight this brigade retired silently from in front of the enemy.

The brigade moved upon the road in the following order: The One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, the One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers, the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers bringing up the extreme rear and furnishing a suitable rear guard. This march to Pleasant Hill was a painful one, as many delays were caused, owing to the long wagon trains and great number of stragglers along the road. The greatest care was taken to drive in and forward all

stragglers. The brigade was joined at the saw-mill by the One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers, which had been left in the afternoon as a guard for the artillery and wagons of the division. From this point this regiment brought up the rear and furnished the rear guard. The march of the brigade was unmolested during the night, and there is reason to believe that the enemy was unaware of the fact that we had retired until after sunrise and after he had shelled our position of the night before. Just as this brigade was reaching the plain before Pleasant Hill the enemy's cavalry appeared, and the great number of stragglers and wagons which were near our rear rushed panic-stricken toward the front of the column. This created much disorder in the One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers, which was a new regiment and had never been under fire. Happily no bad results followed this disorder, and this regiment redeemed itself afterward by its conduct before the enemy.

On arriving at Pleasant Hill this brigade took, by direction of the brigadier-general commanding the division, the same ground which it had left the previous morning, having accomplished in twenty-four hours 40 miles of marching, much severe fighting, and a delicate retirement from the face of the enemy. When this brigade thus took up its old ground a large body of troops, supposed to be under the command of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, were between it and the enemy. It was therefore permitted to rest and to cook. The wagons belonging to the brigade were, by the direction of the brigadier-general commanding the division, sent to the rear. There was a good deal of picket firing during the day, which between 4 and 5 o'clock became frequent, and at moments heavy, and I directed that the brigade should stand to its arms. About this time Colonel Shaw, commanding a brigade of Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith's troops, came to me, saying that he was in front of my position and that both his right and left were being severely pressed, and desiring that I should send out a regiment to his support. As I had no authority to do more than to hold my position I declined to march out from it. Between five and ten minutes past 5 o'clock the enemy's fire became rapid and heavy, and appeared to be advancing toward the left flank and rear of my regiments. These regiments were at that time all of them on the right-hand side of the road going from Pleasant Hill to Mansfield. I immediately moved two regiments, viz, the One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers and the One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers, to the left-hand side of the road, and placed them across the line upon which the enemy appeared to be advancing, and from which direction his bullets were already beginning to drop into my camp. At the same time the colonel of the One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, desiring to change the position of his regiment, was permitted to take up the position he desired. These dispositions were hardly accomplished when Colonel Shaw, of General Smith's division, with some artillery and a regiment of infantry, came fleeing through my lines, and the enemy was upon me. At this moment two pieces of artillery from Battery L, First U. S. Artillery, reported to me by order of the brigadier-general commanding the division. I immediately sent them to my rear, as the position in which I was situated admitted of no use being made of them. They had just retired when, from the confusion in my rear, I perceived the enemy was there, and occupied the only road through which I could communicate with the brigadier-general commanding the division. The enemy also appeared on the left

flank of the One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers. I immediately ordered the Twenty-ninth Maine Infantry, under Colonel Beal, to move so as to clear the left flank of this regiment from annoyance, and I directed the One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey, to move in column of companies upon the road to clear it of the enemy, if necessary with the bayonet. This movement was executed with promptness. The officers, and particularly Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsey, who commanded, are deserving of especial praise and mention. At this time this brigade was entirely surrounded by the enemy with the exception of the ravine on its right, and balls were falling into its position from all directions—a most trying position for the soldiers of this brigade, and one which fully attests their steadfastness and devotion. Having cautioned the three regiments, viz, One hundred and fourteenth New York Volunteers, One hundred and sixteenth New York Volunteers, and One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers, which were in position, to remain firm, and on no account to give way in the least or to retire, I afterward moved the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers and One hundred and sixty-first New York Volunteers in such a manner as to protect the flanks of the other regiments and the right of the army. These movements were made under the eye, and for the most part under the immediate direction, of the brigadier-general commanding the division. Neither of these regiments did much firing, but the attacks upon the three other regiments were incessant, and their fire was constantly maintained until darkness put an end to the battle. The attacks of the enemy upon the position of this brigade continued to the end, and showed the enemy to be in force near my position up to the time when all firing ceased. In their movements and entire conduct during this day, the regiments of this brigade were steady and extremely well behaved, while the fire of the three regiments that remained in position could not have been improved.

I would call especial attention to the One hundred and fifty-third New York Volunteers, which on this occasion made its first appearance on a battle-field. The officers and soldiers of this command have received my thanks for their conduct on these two trying occasions. My thanks are due to the members of my staff, Capt. Oliver Matthews, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. Chitty, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. D. C. Payne, aide-de-camp; Lieut. S. S. Fairchild, aide-de-camp; Lieutenant Fillebrown, ordnance officer, and Lieut. S. W. Phinney, provost-marshal, for the faithful and gallant manner in which they performed all their duties. The efficiency of Capt. Oliver Matthews is especially worthy of attention. I was immediately accompanied during both battles by my brother, Mr. D. A. Dwight, who rendered me much efficient service. I would most respectfully call the attention of the brigadier-general commanding the division to Colonel Beal, of the Twenty-ninth Maine Volunteers, and to his peculiar fitness for a higher command. I inclose a list of casualties.* This brigade retired from Pleasant Hill to this point with the main body of the army.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant

WILLIAM DWIGHT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*See p. 260.

No. 70.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, May 1–22.**

May 1.—The brigade was at Alexandria, La., on the Red River expedition, the Twenty-ninth Maine being across the river at work on the dam for the relief of the naval squadron.

May 2.—The brigade, except Twenty-ninth Maine, went out toward Cheneyville with trains for forage; opposed by superior force of the enemy; skirmished all day; killed 3 and wounded others; our loss, none.

May [4].—The One hundred and sixteenth New York sent over river to work on dam.

May 5.—Forage rations reduced one-third; rations of troops reduced one-third.

May 9.—The One hundred and sixteenth New York transferred to Third Brigade.

May 13.—Marched down Red River to Osborne's plantation, 12 miles.

May 14.—Passed Wilson's Landing and Choctaw Bayou.

May 15.—Marched to Marksville, cavalry skirmishing, 12 miles.

May 16.—Marched through Marksville, the First Brigade skirmishing all morning on the extreme left of Federal line; 2 wounded in the One hundred and sixty-first New York; bivouac at Bayou De Glaize, 16 miles.

May 17.—Marched to Simsport without opposition, 8 miles.

May 19.—Crossed on transports and marched up the Atchafalaya, 2 miles.

May 20.—Marched to Mississippi River and down, 12 miles.

May 21.—Marched through Williamsport, 13 miles.

May 22.—Marched to Morganza Bend, Mississippi River, and went into camp, 3 miles.

No. 71.

Report of Col. Edwin P. Davis, One hundred and fifty-third New York Infantry, of engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. 153D REGIMENT NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the campaign since we left Natchitoches: On the morning of the 6th instant (Wednesday) I broke camp at Natchitoches at 7.30 a. m., joined my brigade, and took up a line of march in direction of Pleasant Hill. After proceeding about 17 miles we bivouacked for the night at 5.30 p. m. At 5.30 a. m. of Thursday, the 7th instant, we broke camp and took up line of march; reached Pleasant Hill about 4 p. m. and went into bivouac about 5 p. m. Heard firing in our front; rumors of our cavalry having engaged the enemy.

The next morning, being Friday, we broke camp at 6 a. m. My regiment was detached from the brigade, being detailed as rear guard to the division trains to relieve the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, which I did at 11 o'clock that day. At 3 p. m. I reached the old saw-mill,

* From return for May.

where the First Brigade had gone into bivouac, but soon the division moved forward and my regiment was ordered to remain and guard the wagons and artillery which were left in camp at the old saw-mill, which I did. The next morning at 4 a. m., 9th instant, I rejoined my brigade at the old saw-mill, and took the rear of the column en route for Pleasant Hill, where we arrived at 8.30 a. m. of same day, and took up a position in the woods on the right of the main road, where I remained until 5 p. m., when I received orders to move my regiment up the main road leading from Pleasant Hill, and to take up a position, the right of my regiment resting on the road, and the line of battle directly diagonal across the wood; also to throw out my skirmishers with orders to hold their position and not to fire a shot until the enemy made their appearance. I had been here but a short time when the enemy made their appearance in a strong force, drove in my skirmishers, and fired a terrific volley into my regiment, which was handsomely met by my men, who poured volley after volley and succeeded in driving them out of the woods. Again they made their appearance and endeavored to turn my regiment and left flankers, but were driven back pell-mell. They again made several attempts to drive me from my position without success. I maintained it until I was ordered to retire, my ammunition being all exhausted, about 8 o'clock, and took up a new position in the rear about 40 yards. About 2 a. m. of the 10th instant I joined the brigade, and took our line of march for Grand Ecore. We bivouacked about 2 o'clock on Sunday, the 10th instant, for the night. Broke camp at 5.50 of the morning of the 11th instant and reached Grand Ecore at 3.30 p. m. My men behaved nobly, and I attach much credit to the noble manner in which my line officers acted, and Lieutenant-Colonel Strain, Major Sammons, and Adjutant Davis rendered me valuable assistance in keeping my line together and maintaining my position. The casualties are as follows:*

Respectfully,

EDWIN P. DAVIS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. Oliver Matthews,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 72.

Itinerary of the Second Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, March 15–May 22.†

March 15.—The brigade marched from Franklin for Alexandria, a distance of 150 miles.

March 25.—Arrived at Alexandria.

March 28.—Resumed the march, passing up Bayou Rapides; thence crossing Bayou Rapides we followed up the Old River, or, as it is now called, the Cane River, to within 25 miles of Natchitoches, a distance of 45 miles.

Brigade marched from Cane River, 45 miles below Natchitoches, La., to Sabine-Cross-Roads, near Mansfield, La., making a distance of 93 miles, where it arrived on the 8th instant and fought in the

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* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 killed, 28 wounded, and 12 missing.

† From returns for March, April, and May.

battle at that place. At night fell back to Pleasant Hill, or Pleasant Ridge, a distance of 12 miles, where it was actively engaged through all the battle of Pleasant Hill on the 9th instant.

April 9.—At night fell back toward Grand Ecore, La.

April 11.—Arrived at Grand Ecore, a distance of 36 miles.

April 21.—Left at night for Alexandria. La.

April 23.—Marched to Cane River (lower crossing), and was engaged in the battle of Cane River Crossing as reserve. That night marched toward Alexandria, La.

April 27.—Arrived at Alexandria, since which time it has been on duty in and around that place.

At Alexandria, La., the brigade was engaged until the morning of 13th [May] in building a dam, for the purpose of raising the river to enable the fleet to pass over the falls, and in building fortifications.

May 13.—Left Alexandria for Simsport, La., where it arrived on the 17th.

May 16.—The enemy were met in force on the prairie at Mansura, but were finally driven from the field.

May 18 *to* 20.—Were occupied in crossing the Atchafalaya River. Night of the 20th the brigade moved for Morganza, La.

May 22.—Arrived at Morganza.

No. 73.

Itinerary of the Third Brigade, First Division, March 15–*May* 22.*

March 15.—Left Franklin, La., at 8 a. m., and marched about 20 miles, nearly to Jeanerette.

March 16.—On the move again at 7.30 a. m., and marched about 18 miles to Camp Pratt.

March 17.—Left Camp Pratt at 7.30 a. m., and marched 15 miles to Vermillion Bayou.

March 18.—Left Vermillion Bayou at 6 a. m., and marched 18 miles to Bayou Boudreau.

March 19.—Left Bayou Boudreau at 6 a. m., and marched about 14 miles to Bayou Grand Coteau, near Washington, La.

March 20.—To-day the troops are resting.

March 21.—On the march again at 6 a. m. To-day we reached Chotier's plantation, and marched about 14 miles. It rained to-day.

March 22.—Left Chotier's plantation this morning at 7 a. m., and marched about 14 miles to Holmesville. The roads were very bad to-day.

March 23.—Left Holmesville at 6.30 a. m., and had a pleasant march of 14 miles to Cheneyville, La.

March 24.—Left Cheneyville at 6 a. m., and marched 17 miles to Bayou Roberts. It rained very hard in the afternoon.

March 25.—Left Bayou Roberts at 7 a. m., and marched 14 miles, reaching Alexandria about 2 p. m.

March 26 *and* 27.—In camp at Alexandria, La.

March 28.—Left Alexandria at 9 a. m., and marched 17 miles to Roberts' plantation, on Bayou Rapides.

March 29.—On the move again at 9 a. m., and marched about 5 miles; encamped near Cotile, La.

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*From returns for March, April, and May.

March 30.—Broke camp at 11 a. m., and marched about 7 miles; encamped in the piney woods.

March 31.—Broke camp at 7 a. m., and marched 21 miles; encamped on the Old Red River.

April 1.—Broke camp at Red River Crossing at 11 a. m., and marched to within 7 miles of Natchitoches.

April 2.—Broke camp at 8.30 a. m., and marched to Natchitoches.

April 3 *to* 5.—In camp at Natchitoches.

April 6.—Marched 15 miles and encamped at Sand Hill.

April 7.—Broke camp at 8 a. m., and marched 20 miles to Pleasant Hill.

April 8.—Broke camp at 8 a. m. At 3 p. m. encamped in the woods, 6 miles from Sabine Cross-Roads. At 4 p. m. moved forward to the support of the Thirteenth Corps, which had engaged the enemy under fire about an hour. At 10 p. m. fell back to Pleasant Hill.

April 9.—The brigade was under fire again at 2 p. m. The action continued until dark, leaving our forces in possession of the field.

April 10.—Left Pleasant Hill at 2 a. m., and marched 20 miles toward Grand Ecore.

April 11.—Broke camp at 6 a. m., and marched 12 miles to Grand Ecore.

April 12 *to* 20.—In camp at Grand Ecore.

April 21.—Broke camp at 5 p. m., and marched with General Birge's command 20 miles toward Cane River.

April 22.—Broke camp at 9 a. m., and marched 15 miles toward Cane River Crossing.

April 23.—Broke camp at 6 a. m. and reached Cane River Crossing at 9 a. m.; forded Cane River with General Birge's command, and at 3 p. m. charged the enemy, posted on a high hill at the crossing. The brigade was under fire about three-quarters of an hour.

April 24.—Broke camp at 11 o'clock, and marched to near Cotile, La.

April 25.—Broke camp at 5 a. m.; rejoined the division and marched to Alexandria, where the brigade is now [April 30] encamped.

May 1 *to* 12.—Encamped at Alexandria, La.

May 13.—Left Alexandria at 7 a. m., and marched 15 miles to Osborne's plantation.

May 14.—Moved at 5.30 a. m., and encamped at Bird's plantation, about 6 miles from Cheneyville.

May 15.—Moved at 5 a. m., and marched to Marksville, La.

May 16.—Moved upon the enemy at 4 a. m. During the day a very spirited artillery fight took place upon the open plain near Mansura, La.

May 17.—Broke camp at 6 a. m., and marched to Simsport, La.

May 18.—Brigade in bivouac at Simsport.

May 19.—Crossed and went into bivouac on the east side of the Atchafalaya River.

May 20.—Broke camp at 7 p. m.

May 21.—Encamped at 1 a. m., moved at 6.30 a. m., and marched to Old River.

May 22.—Moved at 10 a. m., and encamped within 3 miles of Morganza, on the Mississippi.

No. 74.

Report of Col. Francis Fessenden, Thirtieth Maine Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of the engagements at Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of the Third Brigade of this division during the six days from the 6th to the 11th instant: On the morning of the 6th, at 9 a. m., the brigade moved with the division on the Fort Jesup road, south of Spanish Lake, 15 miles from Natchitoches, and camped at [Sand Hill]. On the morning of the 7th instant the brigade marched with the division 20 miles to Pleasant Hill, and went into camp at 4 p. m. on the open ground in front of Pleasant Hill, and near the woods. The Thirtieth Maine Volunteers was on this day detached as a rear guard to the army trains, and did not move till 10 a. m., and went into camp at 10.30 p. m. 7 miles in rear of Pleasant Hill, the trains being stopped by the bad condition of the roads and the darkness of the night.

On the morning of the 8th, at 9 a. m., the brigade, then consisting of the One hundred and sixty-second, One hundred and sixty-fifth, and One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, moved with the division 7 miles on the road to Mansfield, and camped on Ten-Mile Bayou at 1.30 p. m. At 3 p. m. the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers joined the brigade. At 4 p. m. the regiments were ordered to take two days' rations and be prepared to march at once. At 4.30 p. m. the brigade, being third in the division column, marched 6 miles to a position near Sabine Cross-Roads to the support of the Thirteenth Corps, which was then engaged in a severe action with the enemy. The brigade, on arriving near the field of battle, passed through a demoralized mass of retreating cavalry, infantry, artillerymen, and camp followers, crowding together in the midst of wagons and ambulances, and entered the field to the left of the road. The troops were immediately deployed in line in the following order: The One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers on the right of the brigade, resting upon the left of the Second Brigade. The One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers deployed upon the left of the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, both regiments being upon the crest of a hill with a ravine in front, and the enemy behind a similar crest beyond. The Thirtieth Maine Volunteers were deployed in rear of the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, and the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers upon its left and a few rods in advance. The brigade was immediately subjected to the fire of the enemy, which was returned with effect by the One hundred and sixty-second New York, One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, and One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers. The enemy speedily disappeared. In this action the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers were subjected to the fire of the enemy while forming in line, and fell to the rear in some confusion, running through the left company of the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers. They soon rallied and were deployed as skirmishers on the left of the line, while the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers was moved to the left of the last line of battle while the enemy were yet firing.

The enemy having been repulsed, the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers was placed in reserve in line of battle behind the line, its right resting upon the main road. The brigade was under fire about one hour, during which time it repulsed an attack of the enemy upon the left of our line. The attack was mainly repulsed by the One hundred and sixty-second and One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers. It is not surprising that the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers was thrown into confusion in this action, as they were attacked while forming in line, and their only field officer present, Lieutenant-Colonel Carr, severely wounded in the wrist and compelled to leave the field. With that exception the brigade behaved with great steadiness. Maj. Royal E. Whitman, of the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, was severely wounded while in front of his regiment, and had to be carried from the field. The loss of the brigade on this day was as follows: One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, 1 killed, 5 wounded; One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, 1 killed, 13 wounded, 43 missing; One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, 4 wounded; Thirtieth Maine Veteran Volunteers, 2 killed, 9 wounded, 44 missing; total, 4 killed, 31 wounded, 87 missing.

The brigade lay upon its arms until 10.30 p. m., when it retired to Pleasant Hill, marching all night and arriving at Pleasant Hill about 9.30 a. m. of the 9th instant. The enemy showing themselves in rear of the division, the Third Brigade was drawn up in line of battle upon the front of road under the direction of Colonel Peck, One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, then commanding brigade, but was soon after moved to its camping-ground, on the night of the 7th instant, in the skirt of the woods at the lower end of the open ground in front of Pleasant Hill, and companies deployed from each regiment as skirmishers. The men passed the day till 3 p. m. in cooking, sleeping, and finding water. At 3 p. m. the brigade fell into line and prepared to move at a moment's notice. At 3.30 p. m. our cavalry skirmishers were driven in upon our left flank, through our infantry skirmishers, and reported that they were attacked by infantry. The skirmishers in front of the brigade in the woods were strengthened, and the line of battle of the brigade was changed from its position in the skirt of the woods to a position 300 yards to the rear, behind a deep ditch, the edges of which were overgrown with reeds and underbrush, which partially concealed the troops from view when lying down. The ground sloped toward the ditch from the woods, and ascended again to the rear. The regiments were posted in the following order: The One hundred and sixty-fifth New York was on the right of the brigade, the One hundred and seventy-third New York on the right center, the One hundred and sixty-second New York on the left center, and the Thirtieth Maine Veteran Volunteers on the extreme left of the brigade, the brigade being the left of the front line of battle. The right of the brigade was near the woods on the right of the open ground, while the left of the line rested on open ground and was entirely uncovered. The companies of skirmishers were directed to remain in the woods. Shortly after 5 p. m. a company of colored soldiers, deployed as skirmishers between the skirmishers of the brigade and the skirmishers of the troops of the Sixteenth Corps, who were in line in echelon some 400 yards to our left rear, in the woods beyond the slope in our rear, were driven in across the open ground on my left. Shortly after the skirmishers of the brigade in the woods were driven in, and

had not yet joined the battalion when the enemy appeared in the edge of the woods, in front and beyond the left of the line. They advanced rapidly in two lines obliquely upon the left and across the front of the brigade, extending well toward the right. They advanced at a charging pace, delivering a very heavy fire as they advanced.

Two companies of the Thirtieth Maine deployed in the ditch, one in front of that regiment and the other between that regiment and the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, opened a sharp fire upon the enemy, but without checking them in the least. These companies fell back, one upon its own regiment and the other toward the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers. The enemy charged swiftly from the slope and commenced crossing the ditch, striking at some of the skirmishers in the ditch with the butts of their muskets. So rapidly did they advance that Lieutenant-Colonel Blanchard, who had gone to the front of his regiment to the ditch for the purpose of seeing the position of the enemy, had not time to place himself behind his regiment before the brigade line commenced retiring in confusion. The regiments fell back, beginning with the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers on the right, followed by the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers on the left center and the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers next, the regiments delivering their fire as they fell back in disorder to the rear. On that day I commanded the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers upon the left of the line, and had received orders from Colonel Benedict, commanding brigade, to retreat when the other regiments fell back. I held my regiment in its position behind the ditch, firing upon the enemy, until I perceived that the other regiments were retiring over the brow of the slope and myself enveloped on both flanks and severely pressed in front, when I gave the order to retreat. The regiment retreated up the slope under a severe fire, halted and partially reformed, and fired again upon the enemy, and retired in some confusion into the woods, where they were rallied upon the right of General Smith's troops, who were in line in that position. Having rallied the regiment on the right of General Smith's troops, in which I was greatly assisted by Captain Wilkinson, of General Emory's staff, I ordered a charge and advanced with the regiment formed on the right of General Smith's troops in a charge upon the flank of the enemy, who had by this time penetrated the line as far as Battery L, Fifth [First] U. S. Artillery. The enemy retreated to the low ground, when they received support from another line then advancing from the woods. They attempted to reform and resist our advance, delivering a heavy fire. General Smith's troops, however, continued to advance from the left, and, aided by another line, the Second Brigade of First Division, Nineteenth Corps, advancing between General Smith's troops and Battery L, Fifth [First] U. S. Artillery, completed the discomfiture of the enemy in that quarter, and they were speedily driven beyond the open ground and through the woods. In this movement the brigade became much scattered, portions of the different regiments advancing with other brigades until the battle ceased.

The reports of the One hundred and sixty-second and One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers do not say what portions of their regiments advanced. Part of the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, with its colors, fought the remainder of

the battle in the Second Brigade. Four companies of the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, mistaking the colors of General Smith's regiments for their own, advanced with that brigade until the battle ceased. The company of skirmishers that fell back after the One hundred and sixty-second New York on the first attack advanced with the troops that charged on the right of General Smith's troops, leaving the colors and four companies with the field officers. Having advanced until the enemy were entirely repulsed from that part of the field, I halted to reform the regiment. Finding that Colonel Benedict had been killed, and that Colonel Peck was not on the field, I assumed command of the brigade, and endeavored to collect it together, which I succeeded in doing about 9 p. m. The brigade bivouacked in the field on the ground where it was first attacked. Here the troops were supplied with ammunition. At 11.30 p. m. I received orders to hold the troops in readiness to move at a moment's notice, and at 1.40 a. m. the brigade took up its line of march to the rear, reaching its original camping-ground, 15 miles from Natchitoches, at about 12.30 p. m. April 10. The troops rested here till the following morning, when the brigade moved at 6 a. m. to its present camping-ground at Grand Ecore. Its loss in the last engagement of Saturday, the 9th instant, was as follows: One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, 13 killed, 44 wounded, 48 missing; One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, 2 killed, 10 wounded, 61 missing; One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, 5 killed, 37 wounded, 147 missing; Thirtieth Maine Veteran Volunteers, 9 killed, 50 wounded, 28 missing; total, 29 killed, 141 wounded, 284 missing. The total loss in both actions was as follows: 33 killed, 172 wounded, 371 missing.

The losses of the brigade in this action of the 9th, as has been seen, were heavy. Colonel Benedict was instantly killed early in the action. Lieutenant-Colonel Green, One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, was severely wounded, and was compelled to be assisted from the field. A number of officers were killed, wounded, and missing. The staff officers of the brigade were greatly exposed during the action, and behaved with coolness and bravery. The battle was a short one, and the number of killed, wounded, and missing in the brigade bears testimony to the severity of the conflict in which they participated.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS FESSENDEN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 57. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, *Alexandria, La., May* 8, 1864.

A court of inquiry, convened at the request of Col. Lewis M. Peck, One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, having found that Colonel Peck preceded his regiment to the rear at the battle of Pleasant Hill, April 9, 1864; that Colonel Peck did not make proper attempts to rally his regiment while in confusion; that Colonel Peck was not with his regimental colors, or with those of his men who were rallied around them when they advanced against

the enemy; that at this time (*i. e.*, of the advance upon the enemy) Colonel Peck was going to the rear without permission or authority, and alone; and that Colonel Peck did not rejoin his command until 2 p. m. of the 10th of April, 1864, being absent and from the colors of his regiment about twenty hours without authority, Col. Lewis M. Peck, One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, is hereby dishonorably dismissed from the service of the United States, for misbehavior before the enemy, subject to the approval of the President.*

By command of Major-General Banks:

GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 75.

Report of Lieut. Col. Justus W. Blanchard, One hundred and sixty-second New York Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, of operations April 21–25.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., April 30, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of the Third Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, during the five days from the 21st to the 25th instant: On the afternoon of the 21st, the brigade having been temporarily detached, moved at 5 p. m. at the head of General Birge's command, in the advance on the river road, 20 miles from Grand Ecore, and camped on the banks of the Cane River at 3 a. m. On the morning of the 22d, at 11 a. m., the brigade moved with the command 15 miles, passing through Cloutierville about 4 p. m., and camped about 5 p. m. on the plantation adjoining the residence of ——— ———. At 6 a. m. on the morning of the 23d, the brigade moved with the command, in the rear of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, on the river road, 5 miles toward Cane River Crossing, and halted, the advance having met the enemy and opened upon them with artillery. At 9 a. m. the brigade moved with the command (General Birge's) about 1 mile to the rear and forded the river, moving thence by the right flank, through a marshy piece of timber, for some distance, and then in line of battle through the woods to an open field, skirted by a deep, muddy bayou on the opposite side; thence in line of battle over the field and across the bayou, through a swampy undergrowth, to the crest of a hill beyond; thence by the right flank, in a semicircle, about 1 mile to a small clearing at the foot of a high hill upon which the enemy were posted.

Orders were given by General Birge to Colonel Fessenden to take the hill by such disposition of his forces as seemed best to him. By a reconnaissance it appeared that the left flank of the enemy's position on the hill was made impregnable by a marsh and lake. Colonel Fessenden accordingly gave orders to dislodge the enemy by a charge upon his front, and disposed his regiments in the following

* This order of dismissal confirmed by the War Department June 10, 1864; confirmatory orders revoked July 8, with view to Colonel Peck's trial by court-martial. He was tried by general court-martial in November, and acquitted, and was honorably discharged by expiration of service October 18, 1865.

order, viz: On the right, the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers; second, the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers; third, the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, and on the left the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers. To prepare for the attack it was necessary to move the regiments somewhat, and to tear down a high rail fence immediately in our front, which obstructed our advance. As a determined resistance was expected from the enemy upon the hill, orders were given by Colonel Fessenden that the regiments should advance simultaneously over the open field at his command, rapidly, yet in as good order as possible, close the ranks, and reform the line without delay at the foot of the hill, then ascend and dislodge the enemy at all hazards. Before the line was properly formed or the fence removed the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers was ordered forward by a staff officer (a lieutenant of General Banks' staff). The Thirtieth Maine and the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers were then ordered to move on to its support, though the latter regiment had hardly yet gained its position. Despite the want of concert which this unwarranted officiousness occasioned, the regiments advanced rapidly, charged at a run over nearly a quarter of a mile of open field, and passing over another fence and some fallen timber at the foot of the hill climbed its steep sides under a most rapid and galling fire from the enemy. The One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, then under my command, the Thirtieth Maine, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Hubbard, and the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, led by Captain Conrady, gained the summit of the hill almost simultaneously, though at different points, according to their respective positions in line. The One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, moving through the woods on the right, was somewhat obstructed by the marsh before mentioned, and its arrival at the top of the hill was a little later than that of the other regiments, though in good order and well held together. On reaching the summit of the hill a destructive fire was delivered on the enemy in view and in full retreat. Quite a number of them were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners.

Colonel Fessenden, commanding the brigade, was severely wounded in the leg while leading the charge across the field, and, having been notified of such by a staff officer, I assumed command of the brigade. The scattered condition of our forces, occasioned by the interference before mentioned, rendered it necessary to halt for fifteen or twenty minutes in order to reform the lines for an advance. This being done the brigade moved steadily forward half a mile until its advance was checked by a deep ravine. Here a movement was made by the right flank; the First Louisiana Infantry and Thirteenth Connecticut Infantry, heretofore in rear, passed to our right at this point, and filed to the left into an open field. Here the whole force was exposed to a severe fire from the enemy, to whom our pause had given time to take position on a second hill. The advance line moved to a ditch in the center of the field and laid down; the Third Brigade formed in rear (with the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers deployed as skirmishers in a ditch at right angles to the left flank of the advance line) and halted for a few minutes until joined by the One hundred and sixty-fifth New York Volunteers and a few men separated in the charge from the other regiments. The brigade then moved forward over the protected line in front, and advanced to the enemy's second position, which was found to be evacuated,

then moved back again to the foot of the hill and filed by the left 1 mile or more to the crossing, where the pontoon bridge was to be laid.

The loss of the brigade in this affair was as follows:

Regiments.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
162d New York Volunteers	.....	3	2	26	.....	1	a32
165th New York Volunteers	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	1	4
173d New York Volunteers	.....	2	2	26	.....	1	b31
30th Maine Volunteers	2	10	2	65	.....	7	b86
Total	2	15	6	120	.....	10	153

a One officer since died of wounds received in action.
b One enlisted man since died of wounds received in action.

The disproportionate loss of the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers results from the fact that its position in line made it necessary for it to pass a longer distance in the open field. The result of the charge, though perfectly successful, would have been more certain and attended with less loss had it not been for the officious interference of the staff officer before mentioned.

Captain Broach, acting assistant adjutant-general of the brigade, Lieutenants Hall and Dwinal, of the brigade staff, and Colonel Peck, of the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, acting as a volunteer aide, are entitled to especial thanks for their assistance in disposing the troops and bringing up the charge. To Lieutenant Halleck, the efficient provost-marshal of the brigade, the command is indebted for the small number of stragglers and missing. At 8 p. m. the brigade made its bivouac near the Cane River, at the crossing, and held position through the night.

It is with regret that the lieutenant-colonel commanding feels in duty bound to mention the absence of Lieutenant Hoffman from the field, at a time when his services were greatly needed to assist the other members of the staff in urging the men on to the attack, and his unsoldierly conduct in the presence of the brigade after the heat of the action had passed.

At 11 a. m. of the 24th, the dead having been buried, and the troops, trains, and wounded brought over in safety, the brigade moved forward on the Alexandria road, followed by the forces of General Smith. The march of the 24th was unobstructed by the enemy, and at 9 p. m. the brigade camped on Bayou Rapides, 18 miles southeast of Cane River. At 5.30 a. m. on the 25th, the march was resumed, and at 7 a. m. the brigade rejoined the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, which had camped 4 miles in advance the previous night. The march of the 25th was continued until 3.30 p. m., when the brigade camped north of Alexandria, 1 mile up the Red River.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

J. W. BLANCHARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. DUNCAN S. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 76.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Hubbard, Thirtieth Maine Infantry.

Hdqrs. Thirtieth Maine Volunteer Infantry,
Grand Ecore, La., April 18, 1864.

General: An extra copy of my return of killed, wounded, and missing from this regiment lost in battles of April 8 and 9 has been made for your office, and I have the honor to transmit the same, with the subjoined brief account of the part which this regiment bore in these engagements.* On the 7th of April, when 15 miles north of Natchitoches, this regiment was detached from the main column as rear guard to the supply trains of the First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps. After a tedious march in a drenching rain-storm, and during the last three hours over muddy and uneven roads and in utter darkness, a part of the train became mired, and at 10.30 p. m. the regiment was compelled to bivouac in the woods 7 miles in rear of the troops of the division. At 6.30 a. m. of the 8th, the march was resumed, and at 3.30 p. m. of the same day, having marched 18 miles, the regiment joined its brigade, which had been in camp nearly two hours at Mill Springs, 11 miles northwest of Pleasant Hill. At 4 p. m. of the same day, the regiment being much fatigued, received orders to prepare to move forward at once, and at 4.45 commenced a rapid march toward Sabine Cross-Roads, near Mansfield. At this time the firing of artillery and musketry, which had been heard at intervals during the day, was heavy and continuous in our front. At 6 p. m. we had marched a distance of nearly 6 miles from the last halting ground, and reached the theater of the engagement between Lee's cavalry and the Thirteenth Army Corps of the Union forces and the troops of the enemy under Taylor, Green, and Mouton. The cavalry and Thirteenth Corps had been engaged with superior forces, and were very much shattered. The cavalry trains and artillery had been taken by the enemy, and the cavalry with its immediate infantry supports driven back in confusion. My regiment, passing at double-quick step through a road crowded with retreating troops and trains, filed to the left and formed line of battle under fire in a pine wood near the summit of a hill and in rear of a large open field. The regiment was held at first as reserve of the Third Brigade, but was almost immediately moved forward and to the left to assist in checking an attempted movement of the enemy upon the left flank of the division; here the enemy's fire was quite galling. Major Whitman, while dressing the ranks upon the front and left, was wounded, and here we met with nearly all the loss suffered in this action. The enemy was checked chiefly by the fire of the other regiments of the division, and at 8 p. m. my regiment, without having delivered a full volley, was moved to the right, rested upon the main road, and lay under arms awaiting orders. The loss of the regiment in this action, as will appear by the inclosed list, was 1 commissioned officer wounded, 2 enlisted men killed, 7 enlisted men wounded, and 42 enlisted men missing. The missing men fell out from exhaustion before reaching the field of battle, and were probably captured when our forces had retreated.

At midnight of the 8th, the regiment took up the line of march with the division, and at 9 a. m. of the 9th had reached Pleasant

* Casualties embodied in table, p. 260.

Hill, 17 miles in rear of the battle-field. Here the forces of General A. J. Smith, portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, had arrived, some 6,000 strong, and here the Nineteenth Army Corps took position and awaited the enemy. Firing was heard nearly all day upon our skirmish line and occasional discharges of artillery from the enemy. At 4.30 p. m. of the 9th, the rapid discharges of the musketry along our entire line told the advance of the enemy upon our skirmishers. This regiment was then formed in line of battle in rear of a ditch, upon level ground; its front was somewhat obscured by reeds and bushes, and in the rear the ground rose for a distance of 40 rods over open ground, and by a gentle descent and another rise farther to the rear was met by a growth of pine woods near half a mile in rear of our line of battle. Our position was the extreme left and front of the line of battle of the division. Captain Boynton's company (D) was deployed as our advance skirmish line in the woods in front, supported by Captain Randall's company (E). Captain Prince's company (F) was deployed upon either bank of the ditch, 30 yards in advance of our line. Shortly after the firing had become general upon our advance lines Company D came on in good order, having delivered three volleys upon the enemy, and formed upon the left of the battalion; Company E retiring at about the same time, farther to the right, was ordered by Colonel Benedict, commanding the brigade, to occupy the interval between the right of the One hundred and sixty-second and left of the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers. These regiments, in the order given, formed the continuation of the brigade line upon our right. Immediately behind our companies of skirmishers a full brigade of the enemy emerged from the wood, deployed in line of battle, with no skirmishers advanced, and moved upon us rapidly and in excellent order, delivering a heavy fire as they advanced. Our interior line of skirmishers then opened fire and did the enemy considerable damage, but failed to check him. When the enemy was within 100 yards the battalion opened fire and continued an effective discharge until ordered to retreat. This order was not given until the three regiments which formed the entire right of our brigade line had broken and retreated nearly a quarter of a mile up the hill. At this time our flanks were almost enveloped by the enemy gaining the unoccupied ground upon our left and that abandoned on our right, and our line was strongly pressed in front. At the command the battalion retired in tolerable order up the hill, our ground very much exposed and under a very heavy fire.

Arrived at the summit of the hill, the line was partially reformed, and another volley delivered upon the enemy. The regiment again fell back toward the wood before mentioned, and on the edge of it made a final stand. Here a portion of General Smith's force advanced to our support, and under our combined fire the enemy commenced to fall back, followed closely by our forces. In this advance the regiment became much broken; four companies formed upon the left of an Ohio regiment, mistaking their colors for our own; nearly all the remainder advanced with our colors across the open field and drove the enemy beyond our first position. Here the second line of the enemy emerged from the wood, and rallying their retreating forces made a stand for several minutes. Under our rapid fire they finally broke and were pursued by our forces for 2 miles. The forces of the enemy engaged on the 8th are estimated by their prisoners at about 8,000; those engaged on the 9th instant are estimated by them at

15,000. Our own forces engaged on the 8th were near 15,000, but they were put into action consecutively, and so the cavalry and the Thirteenth Corps were beaten. On the 9th instant our forces engaged numbered about 10,000; the Thirteenth Army Corps and the cavalry took no part in this engagement. At midnight of the 9th, our forces again fell back, and on the 11th reached the Red River at Grand Ecore.

The loss of this regiment in the engagement of the 9th instant was 9 killed, 58 wounded, and 29 missing. The missing in this action are nearly all from our companies, and are probably killed, wounded, and prisoners.

In both of these actions both officers and men of the regiment behaved admirably. If any deserve special praise I shall mention Capt. George W. Randall, of Company E, who, though separated from the battalion by order of the brigade commander, and severely wounded in the shoulder in the earlier part of the action, was last to retreat, first to reform his company, and among the last to relinquish the pursuit, and with the exception of an hour given to the dressing of his wound has remained with his company up to this date. I would also mention Sergt. Edmund R. Shaw, of Vassalborough, the color-bearer of the regiment. He behaved with marked coolness and gallantry throughout the day and received a severe and dangerous wound in the knee. Sergeant Shaw is likely to be permanently disabled and deserves a commission in the Invalid Corps.

Among the killed in the action of the 9th is First Lieut. Sumner N. Stout, of Company E, a most gallant and esteemed young officer. His loss is formally reported in a letter which accompanies this report. Colonel Benedict, the brigade commander, was killed in the action of the 9th, leaving the brigade in command of Colonel Fessenden, of this regiment.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HUBBARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Thirtieth Maine Infantry.

[Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.]

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HEADQUARTERS THIRTIETH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
Alexandria, La., April 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In pursuance to instructions and of paragraph 742, Revised Army Regulations, I have the honor to submit the following report of the marches performed by this regiment between April 21 and April 26, 1864, on the route from Grand Ecore to Alexandria, and of its conduct in the affair of April 23 at Cane River Crossing:

At 3 p. m. of April 21, orders were received that the army would march at 5 o'clock, and that the Third Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, to which this regiment is attached, would report for orders to General Birge. At 4.30 o'clock the regiment broke camp on the Pleasant Hill road; moved by the landing to the river road; crossed the Cane River 1 mile below Grand Ecore, and with few halts marched in a southeasterly direction, down the island formed by the Cane and Red Rivers, 20 miles. The regiment halted and bivouacked at 2.30 a. m. of the 22d April with General Birge's

column. At 11.30 a. m., of the 22d April, the column, after some delays resulting from the movement of trains and troops in our rear, was put in motion and the march continued in the same general direction as during the preceding day. At 3 p. m., information having been received that some cavalry of the enemy had taken position in our advance, this regiment was deployed on each side of the pontoon, supply, and ammunition trains in rear of the brigade. The advance was continued in this order, the trains moving slowly to a point some 2 miles south of Cloutierville. The column did not move through this town, but approached it from the northeast and toward the southeastern portion of it. At 7 p. m. the column halted; this regiment was relieved from its duty as guard for the trains, and made its bivouac at 8.30 o'clock with its brigade. The distance marched was about 12 miles.

[THOS. H. HUBBARD.]

[Capt. JOHN H. BROACH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Brigade.]

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HDQRS. THIRTIETH REGT. MAINE VETERAN VOLS.,
Alexandria, La., May 1, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a list* of the killed, wounded, and missing, lost from this regiment in the battle of Cane River Crossing, April 23, 1864, and to submit the following report of the battle and of the marches which immediately preceded and followed it: On the 21st of April, 1864, the regiment broke camp at Grand Ecore, La., and reported, with the Third Brigade of General Emory's First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, to General Birge. At 5 p. m. the troops moved from Grand Ecore, General Birge's command taking the advance of the infantry. The march was continued until 2.30 a. m. of the 22d April, when the regiment bivouacked 20 miles southeast from Grand Ecore, and on the northeast shore of Cane River, which had been crossed at a point 1 mile distant from the camp. At 11 a. m. of the 22d, the troops of General Franklin's and General Smith's commands, which had marched in the order mentioned, reached a point near the advance, and this regiment moved on. The march was continued, without obstruction from the enemy, until 7 p. m. This regiment, which had been deployed on the flanks of the pontoon, supply, and ammunition trains, to resist an anticipated attack from the enemy's cavalry, was then relieved, and made its bivouac at 10 p. m. The advance was then 3 miles south of Cloutierville, on the northeast shore of Cane River. At 6 a. m. of the 23d, the march was resumed. At about 7 a. m. General Emory's division, which led the advance, approached the crossing and found the enemy strongly posted on the southern bank of the river. Eight pieces of artillery, well supported by infantry, held the road, while two pieces of artillery and a strong infantry support held a high bluff a short distance west of the crossing, and commanded the field over which our advance was to be made. To turn the flank of the enemy, dislodge him, and open the road for the movements of our army, General Birge, with his command, followed by a part of the Thirteenth Corps, under General Cameron, forded Cane River 3 miles above the crossing. This regiment formed part

* Nominal list omitted. See summary statement near end of this report, p. 441.

of the detached force. It forded the river in water from 2 to 3 feet deep, climbed a steep bank, advanced in line of battle nearly a mile, through hard-wood growth in low ground, and halted in the edge of a wood. Immediately in front was a broad, green field. In the middle of this our skirmishers were deployed and exchanged shots with the enemy's skirmishers in the wood across the field. After a halt of ten minutes our line advanced, crossed the field without opposition, forded a narrow but deep and muddy bayou, changed direction with the brigade line to the left, passing through a tangled undergrowth of reeds, vines, and thorn bushes, moved across two small hills, in a southerly direction, and halted behind a hedge and a high rail fence, where the skirmishers of the flanking column were protected. In our front was an open cultivated field, a quarter of a mile in width, which extended to the foot of a high sandy hill. The side of the hill was very steep and was rendered difficult of approach by a strong rail fence at the foot, and by woods, bushes, and large fallen trees which covered the slope. Five regiments of rebel infantry were posted on the summit of a hill; their left was protected by a deep and impassable swamp, and their right by a deep ravine. By order of Colonel Fessenden, commanding the Third Brigade, this regiment moved by the left flank to a position in rear of the first fence, and directly in front of the hill, and prepared for a charge. The orders received were to remove the fence, advance at the order rapidly across the open field, reform lines, if necessary, under cover of the hill, and finally dislodge the enemy from its summit at all hazards. Before the fence was torn down, and while as yet two regiments of the brigade had not gained the designated position in line, an officer of General Banks' staff (Lieutenant Beebe, as I am informed) ordered forward the One hundred and seventy-third New York Volunteers, without communicating with Colonel Fessenden, and contrary to his intentions. I immediately led my new regiment forward, and the One hundred and sixty-second followed, though compelled to face by the rear rank to commence the movement in time.

This regiment advanced rapidly over the field and ascended the hill under a severe fire from the enemy. Its colors reached the summit of the hill almost entirely unsupported by its line, inasmuch as the men, although they advanced without the slightest hesitation, and at a run, were impeded by the weight of their knapsacks and by the fences mentioned before. The colors of the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers reached the summit of the hill almost simultaneously with those of this regiment. The enemy inflicted a severe loss upon our lines during the entire advance, but did not make an obstinate resistance, as expected, upon the hill.

The conduct of this regiment, as well as of the entire Third Brigade, was all that could be wished, yet the harmony of the attack and the designs of Colonel Fessenden were so far frustrated by the untimely excitement and officious interference of the staff officer before mentioned as to hazard the success of the entire enterprise. The troops were so much scattered from the same cause that a halt of twenty minutes was necessary in order to reform the lines upon the hill. This delay enabled the enemy to take a second position upon a hill half a mile in our advance. After reforming, this regiment moved forward with the brigade, now under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Blanchard, of the One hundred and sixty-second New York Volunteers, Colonel Fessenden having been

severely wounded in the assault. The regiment advanced one-fourth of a mile through the woods, moved by the flank across a ravine into an open field, received a sharp fire from the second position of the enemy, charged up the hill and carried this position without resistance, moved back to the foot of the hill, and marched 1 mile southeasterly to the Cane River, at the point where our pontoons were to be laid. The loss of the Thirtieth Regiment in this affair, as will appear by the accompanying report, is 2 officers and 10 enlisted men killed, 2 officers and 67 enlisted men wounded, and 7 enlisted men missing.

The conduct of officers and men cannot be too warmly praised. They formed, advanced, and carried an almost impregnable position, held by superior numbers, and this under a severe and well-directed fire. The loss of the enemy was much less than the loss of our troops. So many were conspicuously brave that the mention of their names would form too long a list.

During the night of the 23d, the bridge was laid and trains brought over the river. On the 24th, at 11 a. m., the Thirtieth Regiment moved up the Alexandria road, marched 22 miles, and encamped at 9 p. m. on Bayou Rapides, south of Cotile. At 5.30 a. m. of the 25th April the regiment broke camp, reported with its brigade to General Emory's division, and marched 20 miles to Alexandria.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HUBBARD,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirtieth Maine Infantry.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRTIETH MAINE VOLUNTEERS,
Alexandria, La., May 6, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders received at midnight, May 4, the Thirtieth Maine Volunteers, with two wagons and two days' rations, was on board the transport Rob Roy at 5 minutes before 6 a. m. of the 5th instant. The boat was aground at her berth and an hour and a half was lost in getting her into the stream, although I put half the regiment on shore to lighten. At 7.30 a. m. got under way. Passed General Nickerson's brigade 3 miles down the river, and 1 mile farther met the gun-boat Saint Clair, which was to convoy the transport. The two boats then proceeded down the river, made landing at two places and searched for forage, but found none until we reached Mr. Osborne's plantation, some 17 miles below Alexandria; here the teams were put on shore, guards stationed, and the men put at work on the teams. General Nickerson's brigade overtook us at this place, and, having halted a few moments, went farther down accompanied by the gun-boat. I remained at Osborne's from noon until 5 p. m.; took twelve wagon loads of corn and six of corn fodder. Two squadrons of cavalry from General Smith's forces came down and fed their horses here. At 5 p. m. moved a mile farther down the river, taking the regiment and the teams down by land to the plantations of D. A. Smith and of Mr. Compton. At Smith's plantation a large quantity of corn and fodder was found; worked my teams until dark. About dusk General Nickerson's boats, accompanied by the gun-boat, came up the river and lay off the shore just

above the Rob Roy. Passed the night here; kept eight companies on shore and picketed in front, but had no alarm. In the morning of the 6th commenced work again upon Mr. Smith's forage. At 9 a. m. received word from General Nickerson that he had orders, just sent from Alexandria, to go up the river and take the Rob Roy with him. General Nickerson ordered me to get ready to move at once; put teams on board and returned to Alexandria. Twenty-two loads of corn were taken from Mr. Smith's. A large amount of forage was left here and at a plantation a quarter of a mile below. Before the boat left, some of the enemy's cavalry, supposed to be the advance guard of a regular detachment, appeared half a mile below us. The small number of teams, the distance of the forage from the banks of the river, and the steepness of the banks, prevented me from collecting the forage very rapidly. The Rob Roy, too, was quite heavily loaded with commissary stores recently brought from New Orleans and her decks afforded but little storage room. The teams were constantly worked during the time allowed and the mules considerably exhausted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. HUBBARD,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Thirtieth Maine Volunteers.

Capt. JOHN H. BROACH,
Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Brigade.

No. 77.

Report of Brig. Gen. Frank S. Nickerson, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, Second Division, of engagement at David's Ferry, with itinerary of the brigade, April 15–May 22.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIV., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Wilson's Plantation, May 5, 1864.

MAJOR: No trouble at Wilson's (Smith's we have burned all); but below the John Warner and two gun-boats were captured this morning at 8. All the force has been concentrated below at Dunn's Bayou, where from the best report from prisoners captured (several), negroes, &c., they have eight guns, 800 men, with Polignac's (formerly Mouton's) division at Paul's Stores. It is now 7 o'clock afternoon. I shall proceed no farther to-night. I sent back dispatches, and request 2,000 more men. With them I will clear the river. The gun-boats can afford us no assistance, as the river is so low that they can hurt no one. Prisoners say that not a man has been wounded by them. Infantry must land in the rear of their batteries. I landed 2 miles above at Wilson's with the infantry, and found no opposition at Wilson's. What I say about Dunn's is correct, I think. Give me the force. I will send it back in two days. Send it to-night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. NICKERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. W. HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—If you think best to send more artillery, do so. I shall save the infantry. I don't know about the artillery.

*Itinerary of the First Brigade, Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, April 15–May 22.**

The last monthly return left the brigade, consisting of the Ninth Connecticut, Twelfth Maine, and One hundred and seventy-sixth New York Volunteers, at Carrollton, La. The Ninth Connecticut and Twelfth Maine Volunteers re-enlisted and were furloughed.

April 15.—The brigade present (One hundred and seventy-sixth New York) embarked on steamer Chouteau for Alexandria.

April 18.—Arrived at Alexandria; encamped in rear of town, where it now remains.

May 4.—The brigade was ordered to embark on steamers and proceed to and occupy Fort De Russy, stopping at Wilson's farm and driving the enemy from it.

May 5.—Arrived at Wilson's; found the enemy in force.

May 6.—In the morning received dispatches from headquarters Department of the Gulf ordering an immediate return. Arrived in Alexandria at 2 p. m. and encamped.

May 11.—Broke camp; advance of army.

May 16.—In line of battle during the day. Artillery duel at Mansura, but no general engagement.

May 22.—Arrived at Morganza, where we are now encamped.

No. 78.

Report of Col. William H. Dickey, Eighty-fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding First Brigade, First Division, Corps d'Afrique, of action near Moreauville.

HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 1ST DIV., U. S. INFY. (COLORED),
Morganza, La., May 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 17th of May, while marching on the Bayou De Glaize road, 5 miles beyond Simsport, the enemy appeared, about 300 strong, coming from the wood to the right of the road, a little in advance of my position in the general column, and immediately advanced across the fields, firing on the train. I had just previously deployed a battalion as skirmishers, and it was then marching by the flank near the edge of the wood and in front of the rebel line. This regiment attacked the enemy vigorously, drove him from the field, and pursued some distance. Our loss was 2 killed, 8 wounded, and 2 missing. The enemy left 9 dead on the field. The rebel troops were mounted. No damage was done the train, except, perhaps, the slight wounding of a few horses and mules. The battalion of my command engaged behaved with the utmost coolness, and delivered its fire with excellent effect. No one who witnessed their conduct on this occasion can doubt that it is perfectly safe to trust colored troops in action, and depend upon their doing their full share of fighting. This report has been delayed by the failure of Lieutenant-Colonel Chadwick, the officer commanding the regiment engaged, to forward his report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. DICKEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General, near Morganza.

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* From returns for April and May.

No. 79.

Report of Lieut. Col. John C. Chadwick, Ninety-second U. S. Colored Troops, of action near Moreauville.

HDQRS. NINETY-SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
Morganza, La., June 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 17th of May, while acting as a part of the convoy to the trains of the recent Red River expedition on their passage from Mansura to Yellow Bayou, near Simsport, this regiment was ordered out as flankers and skirmishers. Soon after entering the woods the enemy was discovered in some force, and was at once engaged. Skirmishing with them continued for an hour and a half, which resulted in their being forced back, and a safe passage to the trains guaranteed. This was the first time this regiment, as a whole, had been engaged with the enemy, and I must say that their conduct was as good as that of any new troops. There were instances of cool courage and determined bravery which would compare with the conduct on the battle-field of any veteran. Antoine Davis, acting first sergeant of Company E, was shot in the head, left breast, and groin by the same weapon, a pistol, in the hands of a rebel cavalryman, but could not be moved from his ground until the shot in the groin laid him upon the earth. He received the enemy's fire with the muzzle of the pistol resting against his left breast. I regret to be obliged to report his death in hospital at New Orleans on the night of the 22d instant. The regiment was and is now armed with the Springfield smooth-bore musket, of very inferior and defective quality, many of them becoming useless at the first fire.

Nine of the enemy are known to have been killed. The casualties in this command are as follows, viz: Killed, 2; wounded, 4; missing, 6; total, 12.

I have the honor to be, general, your very obedient servant,
JNO. C. CHADWICK,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Ninety-second U. S. Colored Infantry.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

No. 80.

Itinerary of the Cavalry Division, Department of the Gulf, March 10–*May* 26.*

The First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Brigades, Second Massachusetts Battery, and Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, were concentrated at Franklin, La., by the 10th instant.

March 14.—This force, Brig. Gen. A. L. Lee commanding, left Franklin for Alexandria via New Iberia, Opelousas, Washington, and Cheneyville, and arrived near Alexandria on the 19th, having captured a few stragglers, but encountered no force of the enemy. At Alexandria was General A. J. Smith's infantry command.

* From returns for March, April, and May.

March 20.—In the evening an expedition under Col. T. J. Lucas, consisting of the First Brigade and two regiments of the Fourth Brigade, started up the Bayou Rapides road. They were supported by a detachment from General A. J. Smith's command, under Brigadier-General Mower, who had charge of the movement.

March 21.—Colonel Lucas encountered the enemy at Henderson's Hill and succeeded in gaining their rear. In conjunction with the infantry the cavalry attacked the enemy and captured 4 pieces of artillery with caissons, about 300 prisoners (nearly the entire rebel force), and all their arms and equipments, and nearly 400 horses.

March 28.—The division again moved forward, in advance of the army under Major-General Banks, to Henderson's Hill.

March 29.—The march was continued to Monett's Ferry, on Cane River, where the time was occupied until noon of the 30th building a bridge. Small squads of the enemy were encountered at this point, and there was some slight skirmishing. The bridge being completed, the division again moved forward to a short distance above Cloutierville, where another crossing of Cane River was made. Small parties of rebels retired before the advance, skirmishing to this point, and losing 2 or 3 killed and some wounded.

March 31.—The command moved forward at an early hour, and met with no resistance until about 1 p. m., when a small force of rebels was encountered about 6 miles from Natchitoches. The rebels, 1,000 strong, with four pieces of artillery, were driven rapidly through the town, losing several killed and wounded and 35 prisoners.

April 1.—The First Brigade, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, advanced to White's Store, 12 miles from Natchitoches, on the Shreveport road.

April 2.—The First, Third, and Fourth Brigades, Brigadier-General Lee commanding, made a reconnaissance to Crump's Hill, where the rebels were encountered and defeated by the First and Fourth Brigades. Their force consisted of about 2,000 men, with six pieces of artillery. One officer and 28 men were captured and a number killed and wounded.

April 3.—The enemy were pressed on the Pleasant Hill road, but showed strong force. The division then, pursuant to orders, returned to White's Store and Natchitoches.

April 4.—A portion of the Fifth Brigade made a reconnaissance to Campti; engaged a superior force of the enemy, who were compelled to retire after a sharp fight.

April 6.—The division moved from Natchitoches, in advance of the army under Major-General Banks, to Crump's Hill.

April 7.—The march continued. The Third Brigade, Col. H. Robinson commanding, having the advance, engaged 3,000 of Green's mounted Texans at Wilson's farm, 3 miles from Pleasant Hill, but was unable to dislodge them and was forced to retire some distance. Three regiments of the First Brigade, under Colonel Lucas, moved to their support, charged, and drove the rebels from their position with some loss. They retired to Carroll's Mill, where they received heavy re-enforcements, and were so strongly posted that it was found impossible to dislodge them with the force at hand.

April 8.—Colonel Landram arrived at daylight with a brigade of infantry to assist in the advance. A strong resistance was made, but the enemy was soon compelled to retire to Sabine Cross-Roads, where the forces of Generals Green, Polignac, Mouton, and Dick

Taylor, with some minor commands, had been concentrated. General Ransom came forward with another detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps. A hill in front was occupied and a disposition of the forces made to guard against a surprise until the army, which was some distance in the rear, should arrive. The rebels soon advanced to the attack, and although a desperate resistance was made, they succeeded in breaking the infantry and a portion of the cavalry line and driving them in confusion from the field. The First, Third, and a part of the Fourth Brigades (cavalry) covering the retreat, contested every foot of the ground. The Nineteenth Army Corps was met 3 miles from the field and the enemy was checked. During the night the cavalry retired to Pleasant Hill, having sustained a loss of about one-fifth of the number engaged, 6 guns of the Second Massachusetts Battery, 2 guns of Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, and 2 guns of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery, 156 wagons, about 800 mules, together with all the books and records of the division and of the First and Fourth Brigades. The Fifth Brigade was not engaged in this battle.

April 9.—Detachments of 500 men each from the First and Fifth Brigades, under Colonel Lucas, participated in the engagement at Pleasant Hill. The remainder of the division, under General Lee, serving as escort to the train of wagons and ambulances, moved back to White's Store, and thence on the 10th to Grand Ecore, where the entire army arrived on the 11th and 12th. Skirmishing was of daily occurrence until the 21st, when the march was resumed.

April 22.—The First and Third Brigades skirmished with the enemy on the flank and rear of the army.

April 23.—It was ascertained that the enemy was strongly posted on the bluff at Monett's Ferry, on Cane River, a short distance in advance, while a heavy force threatened the rear. General Arnold, with the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Brigades, supported by a detachment of the Nineteenth Army Corps, was ordered to attack and dislodge the force in front, Colonel Lucas, with the First Brigade, having reported to General A. J. Smith for duty in the rear. Fighting commenced in front and rear about daylight and continued until 4 p. m., when the enemy in front was routed and those in the rear defeated and driven back, and the army began to cross Cane River.

April 24.—The enemy again attacked Colonel Lucas, and were promptly met and repulsed. The entire army then crossed the river in safety and the march was continued to Henderson's Hill.

April 25.—The command encamped near Alexandria.

April 26 *and* 27.—The rebels approached the picket-lines and there was some skirmishing.

April 28.—An attack was made on the First Brigade, Colonel Lucas commanding, which was repulsed with some loss.

April 29 *and* 30.—There was some skirmishing along the line held by the Third and Fourth Brigades.

The division in the field, Brigadier-General Arnold commanding, was stationed at and near Alexandria, La., on outpost duty, and was engaged in skirmishes with the enemy almost every day until the 13th [May], at which time Alexandria was evacuated and the army moved down the Red River.

May 14.—The First Brigade, being in advance, encountered a small force of rebels and drove them back with some loss from Wilson's Landing.

May 15.—The march was continued on the Marksville road. The rebels were posted at the entrance to Avoyelles Prairie with ten pieces of artillery, but were driven slowly back during the day by the First and Third Brigades through the village of Marksville, when they opened a heavy artillery fire on the advance, checking it.

May 16.—The First and Third Brigades advanced cautiously, skirmishing with the enemy, who were found in line of battle near the village of Mansura. The infantry forces advancing to engage them, they were soon forced to retire. General Arnold was ordered to the rear, where the Fourth and Fifth Brigades, supported by a detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps, was stationed. The rebels opened with artillery on the Fifth Brigade near Marksville, but soon retired toward Cheneyville.

May 17.—The rebels attacked the Fourth Brigade near Moreauville, and heavy skirmishing continued throughout the day, in which the Fourth and Fifth Brigades lost several men killed, wounded, and missing. The First and Third Brigades having arrived at Simsport, the Fourth and Fifth encamped near Yellow Bayou.

May 18.—The rebels threatened the rear guard, when Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, with detachments from the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps and the Fourth Cavalry Brigade, moved out to meet them. A desperate fight ensued, in which the rebels were defeated, the cavalry behaving with great gallantry and losing heavily.

May 19.—The trains crossed the Atchafalaya.

May 20.—The command marched for Morganza, where it arrived on the 21st.

May 24.—The Third and Fourth Brigades, and Battery F, First U. S. Artillery, were assigned to the Nineteenth Army Corps as cavalry forces Nineteenth Army Corps; Col. Edmund J. Davis, First Texas Cavalry, was assigned to the command.

May 26.—General Arnold, with the First and Fifth Brigades, and Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, marched via Waterloo and Plaquemine to Donaldsonville, La., arriving on the 30th. The command went into camp, while General Arnold and staff proceeded to New Orleans by water.

No. 81.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Albert L. Lee, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations April 4–13.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Natchitoches, April 4, 1864.

GENERAL: A deserter from the Sixteenth Texas has just been sent me from the front. He speaks freely, and reports that on the evening of the 2d, Walker's and Mouton's divisions were at Pleasant Hill. Mouton's division consisted of two brigades—Mouton's and Polignac's; Walker's division of four brigades—Scurry's, Randal's, Hawes', and one other whose commander he cannot name; that these brigades consist of about four regiments each; that his brigade (Scurry's) has four regiments, Fitzhugh's, Allen's, Waterhouse's, and Flournoy's; each regiment has about 300 men for duty; that after I had driven their cavalry from Crump's Hill, on the evening of the 2d instant, Mouton's brigade and Scurry's were advanced at mid-

night to a point 5 miles this side of Pleasant Hill, and placed in line of battle behind an open field and on each side of the road; that about 2 a. m. yesterday he left the ranks and started for our lines. Their stubborn resistance yesterday morning corroborates the statement. It was reported among his commanders that Price was marching down from Shreveport, and a part of his force had arrived.

I am, general, respectfully, yours,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.

Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin,
Commanding, &c.

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Hdqrs. Cavalry Div., Department of the Gulf,
Natchitoches, La., April 5, 1864.

Major: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders from Maj. Gen. W. B. Franklin, commanding U. S. forces near Natchitoches, on the morning of the 2d instant I moved from this place with the First, Third, and Fourth Brigades of the Cavalry Division on the Shreveport road. Twelve miles from this point, at a bridge just below White's Store, near where my own advance pickets were stationed, the enemy's pickets were encountered. They were driven rapidly, but were strongly re-enforced, and at Crump's plantation retired behind a strongly posted body of their force. At this place the road forks, in one direction leading to Many, in the other to Pleasant Hill. The country, before this heavily wooded, here shows an open field about a half mile square. On each road were planted three pieces of artillery, which opened on our advance as it appeared. The First Brigade, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, led our column. The Fourteenth New York Cavalry, in advance, charged with sabers a body of the enemy, driving them in disorder, and capturing several prisoners. The Sixteenth Indiana and Second Louisiana Mounted Infantry were immediately dismounted and thrown forward as skirmishers, and a section of Rawles' battery (G, Fifth U. S. Light Artillery) placed in position, supported by a battalion of the Sixth Missouri Cavalry. While placing the section in battery, a regiment of the enemy's cavalry charged it in column, approaching within 20 yards, when they were received by a discharge of canister and a charge by the Sixth Missouri Cavalry, before which they fled in confusion. The fork of the road was now gained, but the wood beyond was filled with dismounted skirmishers. An advance was made by our force and the rebels were slowly driven from the shelter of trees and ravines. The Fourth Brigade, Colonel Dudley commanding, joined in this skirmishing, and did good service. At 6 p. m. the First Brigade had gained 4 miles on the Many road, and was ordered to bivouac. The Fourth Brigade rested at a point 3 miles from the fork, on the Pleasant Hill road; the Third Brigade at the fork. Positive information was gained that Walker's and Mouton's infantry divisions were in camp at Pleasant Hill, 8 miles distant.

At daylight the enemy was pressed on the Pleasant Hill road, but showed strong force. Under my orders it was only left me to withdraw my force, which retired slowly to the White Store, 12 miles from this place, where are still encamped two brigades, the Third retiring to this place.

My reports show the capture of 1 officer (a lieutenant of the Seventh Texas Cavalry) and 28 privates of different regiments. Our loss was 7 men wounded. The enemy had in the engagement the Second and Fourth Louisiana Cavalry, Second, Fifth, and Seventh Texas Cavalry, and Debray's Cavalry (Texas independent), a force which I estimate at about 2,000 men.

I desire to mention with particular commendation Col. T. J. Lucas, commanding First Brigade. He displayed great coolness and promptitude. The management of his command could not have been improved. Lieutenant-Colonel Redfield, Sixteenth Indiana, arose from a sick bed, and led his regiment with great coolness and gallantry. Maj. A. Bassford, Fourteenth New York Cavalry, led his men in a charge against superior numbers, when officers and men behaved perfectly. The Sixth Missouri Cavalry and Second Louisiana Mounted Infantry behaved with equal gallantry. The Second Illinois, Fourth Brigade, Maj. Marsh commanding, drove the enemy effectively on the Pleasant Hill road. Though arriving on the field after the severest fighting, Colonel Dudley, commanding Fourth Brigade, managed his command ably and efficiently. The Third Brigade was not engaged.

I transmit herewith an accurate survey* of road over which we advanced; also copy, for information, of letter† yesterday sent General Franklin, with intelligence from a deserter.

I have the honor to be, major, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grand Ecore, April 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the left in very good shape except that if we should make a fight here considerable timber should be cut. I have no axes, and if preparation is desirable would request a detail of 100 of the colored engineers with axes, for labor to-morrow.

I am, respectfully, yours,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.

Brigadier-General STONE,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

MAJOR: Regarding the part taken by the Cavalry Division in the events of the last few days, I have the honor to report that on the 6th instant, in pursuance of orders from Major-General Franklin, to whom I was ordered to report, I moved my force, consisting of the First, Third, and Fourth Brigades, from Natchitoches, on the road toward Shreveport, as the advance of the army. No enemy was seen this day. My camp was at Crump's Corners, 23 miles from Natchitoches.

*Not found. †See p. 447.

On the 7th, the division moved to and through Pleasant Hill, driving some 200 of the enemy's cavalry before them. About 2 p. m. the Third Brigade, Col. H. Robinson commanding, composed of the First Louisiana Cavalry, Major Badger, and Eighty-seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, constituting the advance of the division, moved up the road toward Mansfield, and at Wilson's farm, 3 miles distant from Pleasant Hill, encountered the enemy in considerable force posted in the timber on the hill beyond a clearing, with their left protected by a ravine; a lesser hill, one-fourth mile in the enemy's front, was immediately occupied by us. The Eighty-seventh Illinois was at once dismounted and deployed to the right, the First Louisiana taking position on the left and in reserve. Soon, however, the entire brigade was dismounted and moved to the front. A section of the howitzer battery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, was put in position on the crest of the hill, and opened fire on the enemy. In the mean time the firing was heavy on both sides and the resistance of the enemy so decided that the First Brigade, Colonel Lucas, was hastened to Colonel Robinson's support. Just before it moved to take position, the enemy charged with great impetuosity our front and right flank, driving the Third Brigade about 100 yards, but the First Brigade, advancing immediately dismounted, united with the Third Brigade, and impetuously charging the enemy drove them in turn, breaking their lines and dislodging them from their original position. A pursuit was ordered and continued until near night-fall, the rebels being driven to Carroll's Mill, 10 miles beyond Pleasant Hill. At this point they opened upon us with four pieces of artillery, and were so strongly posted on the opposite side of a bayou or creek that it was impossible to dislodge them at the time and with the force we had. The division held this point and bivouacked on the field.

In the action at Wilson's farm we captured 23 prisoners, and killed and wounded a large number of the enemy.

Herewith I transmit schedule, marked A,* giving full lists of casualties in the command, showing a total of 11 enlisted men killed, 3 officers and 39 enlisted men wounded, and 9 enlisted men missing.

I also transmit, marked B, a sketch† of the field and position of troops. From prisoners it was ascertained that the enemy had on the ground six regiments, in number about 3,000 men, a portion of Green's mounted force of Texans. The character of ground over which we fought was the thick pine woods of this region, and forbade the use of mounted men. In the action at Wilson's farm both officers and men behaved well, and had not the ammunition of a large proportion of the Eighty-seventh Illinois been entirely exhausted, the enemy could not even temporarily have driven them from their ground.

On the morning of the 8th, a brigade of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, Colonel Landram commanding, was reported to me to assist in the advance. The First Brigade of my division, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, was placed in the advance, and shortly after sunrise the command moved on the enemy. His resistance was strong, but he was quickly driven from his position. The advance continued steadily, but slowly, a regiment of the First Brigade, dismounted, moving as skirmishers before two regiments

* Nominal list of casualties omitted.

† Not found as an inclosure; but see p. 226.

of infantry advancing in line. About 1 p. m. we had advanced 5 miles from our camp of the night previous, and were distant 4 or 5 miles from Mansfield, when a heavy force of the enemy appeared in our front and on our right flank. At about this time General Ransom appeared on the ground with the Second Brigade of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, to relieve the First Brigade from its duty with the cavalry advance. Immediately in our front was a large clearing on the slope of a hill, over which was the course of the road. But little resistance was offered to our advance to the crest of this hill, and we were soon in position. Two regiments of the Fourth Brigade Cavalry, Colonel Dudley commanding, the Third and Sixth Massachusetts Cavalry,* were placed on the left flank, deployed in the woods. The First [Second] New Hampshire Cavalry, of the same brigade, was deployed on the right flank. The Second Illinois Cavalry formed a half mile in rear of the first lines. Nims' battery of horse artillery, rifled 6-pounders, was placed in position on the crest of the hill in and to the right and left of the road. A section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery was placed on the left of Nims'. A brigade of infantry was placed in the front, one regiment to the left of Nims' battery, the others to the right. A second brigade of infantry was placed on our right flank, facing the enemy, who appeared in that direction. The First Brigade Cavalry, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, was placed on the extreme right of the line and fought dismounted. With this brigade was a section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery. The Third Cavalry Brigade was in rear, escorting the train of the division, which was moving behind.

Meanwhile, and shortly after occupying the ground, the major-general commanding had, with his staff, arrived upon the field and assumed the general direction of affairs. Brigadier-General Stone, chief of staff, had ridden with the advance since an early hour in the morning.

The above dispositions being made, our force was stationary for about two hours, slight skirmishing, however, continuing on the flanks. The enemy meanwhile could be observed to shift the position of strong columns, using for such purpose roads crossing the Mansfield road and passing not distant from our right. About 4 p. m. he made a general advance all along our lines in strong force, and though an obstinate resistance was made, our lines were forced back to the wood at the foot of the hill. In the attack on the front Nims' battery did most excellent service, repelling three successive charges of the enemy. Twenty minutes after the action opened the battery was ordered to retire, the infantry support having already given way in confusion. Three pieces were taken to the rear in good order; three pieces were left on the field, it being impossible to remove them, the horses being disabled. The section of Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery retired in good order. The First Brigade meanwhile was doing splendid service as infantry on the right flank, being the last to retire. A section of Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Rawles commanding, had been placed in position on the right flank and acted with the First Brigade; also a section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery. On falling back, lines were formed at the line of woods, assisted by small infantry re-enforcements. The retreat was soon extended, troops falling

*The Thirty-first Massachusetts Infantry, mounted.

back through the woods and along the road over which we had advanced. The cavalry (mounted) formed repeatedly lines behind our retreating forces and stayed the advance of the rebels. Their gallantry and coolness was marked, and the repeated checks given the enemy went very far toward saving the routed army, which could now only hope for safety behind re-enforcements in the rear. About 2 miles from the field of battle was found the train of the Cavalry Division, which had become blocked in the ruts and mud of the road in attempting a retreat. The road was here so obstructed and the rush so great that the remaining three guns of Nims' battery, a section of Rawles' battery (G, Fifth Artillery), and a section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery, fell into the hands of the enemy, who were closely pressing the rear. At this point were captured by the enemy 156 wagons and about 900 mules of the Cavalry Division. Here the Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, did good service in checking the enemy, Colonel Robinson being himself seriously wounded. The detachment of the Nineteenth Army Corps was soon met, deployed across the road, and my troops, with others, formed behind it. The enemy's advance was checked, and during the night the entire force fell back to Pleasant Hill.

On this day the First Brigade, Colonel Lucas commanding, lost, killed, 11; wounded, 57; missing, 83; total loss, 151. The Fourth Brigade, Colonel Dudley commanding, lost, killed, 17; wounded, 143; missing, 52; total loss, 212. Two companies only of the Fifth Brigade were engaged in this action—Companies K and D, Eighteenth New York Cavalry, Capt. William Davis commanding. Having been detailed as escort to General Ransom, they were left without orders and reported to Colonel Lucas, of First Brigade, who assigned them to duty. They acquitted themselves well. Their loss was, killed, 2; wounded, 9; missing, 2; total loss, 13. The Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, lost, killed, 2; wounded, 10; missing, 7; total loss, 19. Nims' battery lost, killed, 2; wounded, 18; total loss, 20. Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery lost, wounded, 3. Rawles' battery (Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery) lost, killed, 5; wounded, 10; total loss, 15 men.

April 9, detachments of 500 men each from First and Fifth Brigades were ordered to report to General Franklin. Colonel Lucas, commanding First Brigade, was detached with Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, and Fourteenth New York Cavalry. They participated in the battle at Pleasant Hill, as did the detachment of Fifth Brigade. The Sixteenth Indiana, in a charge on the left (dismounted), captured the flag of the First Texas Cavalry and many of their led horses. The loss of the First Brigade on the 9th was, killed, 1; wounded, 4; total loss, 5. The detachment Fifth Brigade lost in wounded, 21 men; in missing, 2 men; total loss, 23. With the remainder of the division and General Cameron's detachment of Thirteenth Army Corps I was ordered to escort the army trains to Grand Ecore, which was successfully done, arriving at this place on the evening of the 10th instant. During the period covered in this report the total known loss of the Cavalry Division was, killed, officers and men, 51; wounded, officers and men, 317; missing, officers and men, 155; total known loss, 523. Added to this a detachment of Fourteenth New York Cavalry of 50 men, Captain Andres commanding, was sent at midnight on the 9th instant by General Banks to communicate with the fleet on Red River, and have

not since been heard from. A further supplemental report will be furnished, speaking more particularly of the conduct of officers of this command during the time embraced in this report.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. G. B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
April 14, 1864—8 p. m.

GENERAL: I send you a prisoner, taken by Fifth Brigade detachment, which accompanied General Smith above on the river. He displays much intelligence and gives information of great importance if it be true. He is a thorough rebel, however. He states that he left Shreveport on Friday to report to Liddell for scouting. That day news came that Steele had destroyed Government works at Washington, but while doing it Price had cut off his train and some artillery he had left in rear. Steele was now falling back. Washington is 100 miles from Shreveport. General Green, with two brigades of cavalry, came to the river on this side and, dismounting his men, attacked the gun-boats. His men were exposed in an open field and suffered much from our shells. Green gave an order to retire, and as he was mounting his horse a shell burst and took off the top of his head. This man was 3 miles from the spot, saw friends who had seen Green's body, which was to be carried back for burial. In his judgment the enemy will not attack us when we are near our gunboats. General Churchill's brigade of Price's army was at Mansfield, and some of Marmaduke's cavalry. Price was at Washington. I send the man to you.

Yours, respectfully,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

General FRANKLIN.

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OFFICE CHIEF OF CAVALRY, DEPT. OF THE GULF,
New Orleans, April 29, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to forward to the major-general commanding the following amended report of the part taken by the Cavalry Division in the march of our forces from Natchitoches on the 6th instant and the events of the succeeding days, my former report, from the necessary haste of preparation, not setting forth so fully as may be desirable the various orders which I received and which governed the action of the division. I would therefore report that on the 6th instant, in pursuance of orders from Major-General Franklin, to whom I was ordered to report, I moved my force, consisting of the First, Third, and Fourth Brigades of the Cavalry Division, with Nims' (Second Massachusetts) battery of horse artillery, six guns; Rawles' (Company G, Fifth U. S. Artillery) battery horse artillery, four guns; a battery of four mountain howitzers, manned by a company of Sixth Missouri Cavalry, Capt. H. H.

Rottaken commanding, a force amounting in all to about 3,300 men, from Natchitoches on the road toward Shreveport, as the advance of the army.

My orders from General Franklin were, "to attack the enemy wherever I could find him, but not to bring on a general engagement." I had with my command a train of about 200 wagons, carrying ten days' rations for men, three days' forage for animals, ammunition and camp equipage. No enemy was seen that day. My camp at night was at Crump's Corners, 23 miles from Natchitoches. On the 7th the division moved to and through Pleasant Hill, driving some 200 of the enemy's cavalry before them. About 12 m. the Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, composed of the First Louisiana Cavalry, Major Badger, and Eighty-seventh Illinois Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, constituting the advance of the division, moved up the road toward Mansfield, and at Wilson's farm, 3 miles distant from Pleasant Hill, encountered the enemy in considerable force posted in the timber on a hill beyond a clearing, with their left protected by a ravine. A lesser hill one-fourth mile in the enemy's front was immediately occupied by us. The Eighty-seventh Illinois was at once dismounted and deployed to the right, the First Louisiana taking position on the left and in reserve. Soon, however, the entire brigade was dismounted and moved to the front. A section of the howitzer battery, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, and a section of Rawles' battery, were put in position on the crest of the hill, and opened fire on the enemy. In the mean time the firing was heavy on both sides and the resistance of the enemy so decided that the First Brigade, Colonel Lucas, was hastened to Colonel Robinson's support. Just before it moved to take position the enemy charged with great impetuosity our front and right flank, driving the Third Brigade about 100 yards and forcing our artillery to retire; but the First Brigade, advancing immediately (dismounted), united with the Third Brigade, and impetuously charging the enemy, drove them in turn, breaking their line and dislodging them from their original position. During the action I sent a staff officer to General Franklin, informing him that the enemy were in force in my front, and suggesting that a brigade of infantry should be moved near me for a support in case of need. General Franklin was found at Pleasant Hill and sent forward a brigade of infantry, but before reaching me, the heavy firing having ceased, it was withdrawn to Pleasant Hill. At 2 p. m. I sent to General Franklin the following dispatch:

APRIL 7, 1864—2 p. m.

General FRANKLIN:

The enemy drove us with considerable lost in killed and wounded. We have driven them in turn and regained our ground and firing has ceased. I shall advance a little cautiously.

Yours, respectfully,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

A pursuit was ordered and the enemy driven, though resisting stubbornly at every favorable point. About 5 p. m. I received the following dispatch from General Franklin's adjutant:

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES WESTERN LOUISIANA,
Pleasant Hill, April 7, 1864.

GENERAL: The general commanding has received your dispatch of 2 p. m. A brigade of infantry went to the front, but the firing having ceased it was with-

drawn. The infantry is all here. The general directs that you proceed to-night as far as possible, with your whole train, in order to give the infantry room to advance to-morrow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WICKHAM HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I was at this time about 6 miles from Pleasant Hill, and continued my advance till near night-fall, the rebels being driven to Carroll's Mill, 10 miles beyond Pleasant Hill. At this point they opened upon us with four pieces of artillery, and were so strongly posted on the opposite side of a bayou or creek that it was impossible to dislodge them at the time and with the force we had.

The division held this point and bivouacked on the field. In the action at Wilson's farm we captured 23 prisoners and killed and wounded a large number of the enemy. I have heretofore transmitted list of casualties, showing from our force a total of 11 enlisted men killed, 3 officers and 39 enlisted men wounded, and 9 enlisted men missing. I herewith transmit, marked A,* a sketch of the field and position of troops.

From prisoners it was ascertained that the enemy had engaged six regiments, in number about 3,000 men, a portion of Green's mounted force of Texans. The character of ground over which we fought was the thick pine woods of this region, and forbade the use of mounted men. So thick and impenetrable was the growth of wood near our camp of that night that it was necessary to allow a large portion of my train to remain in the road. It was so left, the wagons faced to the rear.

In the action at Wilson's farm both officers and men behaved well, and had not the ammunition of a large proportion of the Eighty-seventh been entirely exhausted the enemy could not even temporarily have driven them from this ground. At 9 p. m. I sent the following dispatch to General Franklin, then at Pleasant Hill:

ABOUT 8 MILES FROM PLEASANT HILL,
April 7, 1864—9 p. m.

GENERAL: I am camped with most of my force along the road near this point; Fourth Brigade is camped on the battle-ground of to-day. At sundown the enemy was just in our advance, in strong position, with four pieces of artillery, which they used freely. We suffered here somewhat. I am simply holding the ground. I deem it much more expensive to life to fight the enemy in this immediate country with dismounted and, necessarily, somewhat confused cavalry than with infantry. I had intended visiting you to-night, but think I had better not leave. I will, however, with an entire deference to what may be your own judgment, suggest that a brigade of infantry be ordered to the front at an early hour to-morrow morning, to act with me in the conduct of the advance. If a resistance should be obstinate I should like to leave my train with the advance of infantry. I shall have my command ready to move at daylight. I find here almost no water.

I am, general, respectfully, yours,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

During the latter part of the night I received the following reply:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, &C.,
April 7, 1864—12.30 a. m.

GENERAL: General Franklin is in receipt of your dispatch. He directs me to say that General Banks is here, and by his order a brigade of infantry will move to your support at 3 a. m. The orderly is detained to act as guide to this brigade.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

DAVID LYON,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

* Not found as an inclosure; but see p. 226.

About sunrise on the morning of the 8th, a brigade of the Fourth Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, Colonel Landram commanding, was reported to me to assist in the advance. The First Brigade of my division, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, was placed in the advance, and shortly after sunrise the command moved on the enemy. His resistance was strong, but he was quickly driven from his position. The advance continued steadily but slowly. A regiment of the First Brigade, dismounted, moving as skirmishers before two regiments of infantry advancing in line. Frequently artillery was used to dislodge the enemy from his stronger positions.

The following report was sent to General Franklin:

Five Miles from Mansfield, *April* 8, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General Franklin:

The enemy have thus far disputed our progress at every favorable position. We suffer in killed and wounded, but advance steadily. Lieutenant-Colonel Webb, Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry, was just killed. Two or three other officers are killed and several wounded.

Yours, respectfully,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.

The disposition of my force on the march had placed the First Brigade Cavalry, Colonel Lucas commanding, in connection with the infantry brigade, in the front; Fourth Brigade Cavalry, Colonel Dudley commanding, followed, two regiments in column in the road, and a regiment covering either flank. The Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, was next in column, in charge of the entire train and such artillery as was not engaged in front. This brigade with the train was often halted by my order in case of heavy skirmishing, and again moved forward on a stretch of country being gained. It is perhaps not out of place to state that Brigadier-General Stone, chief of staff, was riding with me in front during almost the entire march of this day. About 12 m. we had advanced 5 miles from our camp of the night previous, and were distant 4 or 5 miles from Mansfield, when a heavy force of the enemy appeared in our front and on our right flank. At about this time General Ransom appeared on the ground with the Second Brigade of the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, to relieve the First Brigade from its duty with the cavalry advance. Immediately in our front was a large clearing on the slope of a hill, over which was the course of the road. But little resistance was offered to our advance to the crest of the hill, and we were soon in position. Two regiments of the Fourth Brigade Cavalry, Colonel Dudley commanding (the Third and Sixth* Massachusetts Cavalry), were placed on the flank, deployed in the woods. The Second Illinois Cavalry formed a half a mile in the rear of the first lines. Nims' battery of horse artillery, rifled 6-pounders, was placed in position on the crest of the hill in and to the right and left of the road. A section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery was placed on the left of Nims'. A brigade of infantry was placed in the front, one regiment to the left of Nims' battery, the others to the right. A second brigade of infantry was placed on our right flank, facing the enemy, who appeared in that direction. The First Brigade Cavalry, Col. T. J. Lucas commanding, was placed on the extreme right of the line and fought dis-

* The Thirty-first Massachusetts Infantry, mounted.

mounted. With this brigade was a section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery and a section of Rawles' battery. The Third Brigade Cavalry was in rear, as before stated, escorting the train of the division, which was now halted about 1½ miles from our front. Our skirmishers soon developed the fact that the enemy were before us in strong position and in great force. Our lines rested and the position of the enemy was closely reconnoitered.

At about 1 p. m., and shortly after we had occupied the ground, Major-General Banks, with his staff, arrived upon the field and directed me by a staff officer to report to him. I reported in person and explained to him the disposition of my force, and so far as possible the strength and position of the enemy, stating, in my opinion, we could not with our present force drive them, and that we must either fall back or be heavily re-enforced to advance. He directed me to retain my present positions, observe carefully the enemy, and report any movement, stating his intention to immediately order forward infantry.

Our forces were now for a long time stationary, light skirmishing, however, continuing on the flanks. The enemy meanwhile could be observed to shift the position of strong columns, using for such purpose a road crossing the Mansfield road, and passing along and not distant from our right. Accompanying sketch, marked B,* shows position of troops and the ground. About 4 p. m. I received an order, through a staff officer of General Banks, "to dispose my troops to advance to Mansfield." I immediately reported in person to General Banks, representing to him that the troops were already disposed for an advance, but that none could be made without bringing on an engagement. He then directed me to let them remain and immediately sent an officer to the rear to hasten forward the infantry. At this moment I received the following dispatch from General Franklin:

TEN MILES FROM PLEASANT HILL,
April 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. L. LEE,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of 11.45 a. m. You have doubtless been joined by General Ransom with another brigade by this time, and General Banks left here about 11 o'clock to go to the front. I hope to be able to get up part of General Emory's force to you to-morrow to relieve General Ransom's. In the mean time let me know anything that may occur.

Yours, respectfully,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Major-General, Commanding.

I do not understand that it is General Banks' or General Ransom's intention to stay with you, but merely to see what is going on.

I sent this dispatch by a staff officer to General Banks for his information. He replied that himself and General Ransom would remain.

About 4.30 p. m. the enemy made a general advance all along our lines in strong force, and though an obstinate resistance was made, the attacking force was so overwhelming in numbers that our lines were soon forced back and driven for about a mile to the wood at the foot of the hill. No re-enforcements had at that time arrived.

* Not found as an inclosure; but see pp. 227, 228.

In the attack on the front Nims' battery did most excellent service, repelling three successive charges of the enemy. Twenty minutes after the action opened I ordered the battery to retire, the infantry support having already given way in confusion. Three pieces were taken to the rear in good order; three pieces were left on the field, it being impossible to remove them, the horses being disabled. The section of Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery retired in good order. The First Brigade meanwhile was doing splendid service as infantry on the right flank, being the last troops to retire. Sections of Rawles' battery and Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery acted here with great effect, and retired with the brigade. The regiments of the Fourth Brigade fell back in good order, and, according to directions, kept well on the flanks, repelling the enemy in their attempts to press to our rear. On falling back lines were formed at the line of woods, assisted by the Third Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, General Cameron commanding, which had just arrived. These troops, however, after making a brief stand, were forced to give way before overwhelming numbers, and the retreat was extended, troops falling back through the woods and along the road over which we had advanced.

The cavalry (mounted) formed repeatedly lines behind our retreating forces and stayed the advance of the rebels. Their gallantry and coolness was marked, and the repeated checks given the enemy, I am confident, went very far toward saving the routed army, which could now only hope for safety behind re-enforcements in the rear. About 1 mile from the field of battle was found a portion of the train of the Cavalry Division, which had become blocked in the ruts and mud of the narrow road in attempting to retreat. The road was here so obstructed, and the rush of retreating forces so great, that the remaining three guns of Nims' battery, a section of the Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery, fell into the hands of the enemy, who were closely pressing the rear and flanks. At this point were captured by the enemy 156 wagons and about 800 mules of the Cavalry Division. These wagons were mostly loaded with forage. Besides forage there were in the train about 20,000 rations and most of the camp equipage of the First and Fourth Brigades. The ammunition train was saved. In view of this considerable loss from the train of my command, a loss which has provoked some criticism, I desire, in explanation of its presence and continued presence, to call attention to the order of General Franklin, cited in this report and received by me about 5 p. m. of the preceding day, directing me to proceed that night as far as possible with my whole train to give the infantry room on the following day.

I will state also that I had frequently requested that my train or the bulk of it might be left with the advance train of the infantry, as I found it a great charge and incumbrance, in conducting the advance. Such permission had never been granted. On the night of the 7th, in my dispatch of 9 p. m., I again indicated such wish, but without eliciting reply. My own dispatches cited in report could hardly fail to represent the current condition of affairs to my superiors, and under such explicit instructions and orders I can see little room left me as a soldier for the exercise of personal judgment. About 10 or 11 a. m. of the 8th, my train was at the creek near Carroll's Mill, 5 or 6 miles from the battle-field. While a halt was being made to construct a bridge, General Banks and staff and General Franklin and staff came up and observed its construction. General Franklin

directed the quartermaster of the Fourth Brigade to "do his best to keep the train well closed." At the point of its capture during the progress of the battle this quartermaster asked Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, chief quartermaster of the army, if he had not better move his train back. He replied, "No; you must not turn a single wagon. If you lose your wagons lose them facing the enemy." I transmit, marked C,* statement of this quartermaster. During the battle Capt. H. Hoge, division quartermaster, was directed by an officer of General Banks' staff and an officer of General Franklin's staff not to move the wagons, as it would impede the advance of the infantry. Near the train the Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, was deployed and did good service in checking the enemy, Colonel Robinson being himself seriously wounded. The detachment of the Nineteenth Army Corps was soon met, deployed across the road, and my troops with others formed behind it. The enemy's advance was checked, and during the night the entire force fell back to Pleasant Hill. On this day the First Brigade, Colonel Lucas commanding, lost, killed, 11; wounded, 57; missing, 83; total loss, 151. The Fourth Brigade, Colonel Dudley commanding, lost 17 killed; wounded, 143; missing, 83; total loss, 212. Two companies only of the Fifth Brigade were engaged in this action, Companies K and D, Eighteenth New York Cavalry, Capt. William Davis commanding, having been detailed as escort to General Ransom; they were left without orders, and reported to Colonel Lucas, of First Brigade, who assigned them to duty. They acquitted themselves well. Their loss was, killed, 2; wounded, 9; missing, 2; total loss, 13. The Third Brigade, Colonel Robinson commanding, lost, killed, 2; wounded, 10; missing, 7; total loss, 19. Nims' battery lost, killed, 2; wounded, 18; total loss, 20. Sixth Missouri Howitzer Battery lost, wounded, 3. Rawles' battery (Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery) lost, killed, 5; wounded, 10; total loss, 15 men.

April 9, detachments of 500 men each from First and Fifth Brigades were ordered to report to General Franklin. Colonel Lucas, commanding First Brigade, was detached, with Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, and Fourteenth New York Cavalry. They participated in the battle at Pleasant Hill, as did the detachment of Fifth Brigade. The Sixteenth Indiana, in a charge on the left (dismounted), captured the flag of the First Texas Cavalry and many of their led horses. The loss of the First Brigade on the 9th was, killed, 1; wounded, 4; total loss, 5. The detachment Fifth Brigade lost in wounded 21 men; in missing, 2 men; total, 23. With the remainder of the division and General Cameron's detachment of Thirteenth Army Corps, I was ordered to escort the army train to Grand Ecore, which was successfully done, arriving at that place on the evening of the 10th instant. During the period covered in this report the total known loss of the Cavalry Division was, killed, officers and men, 51; wounded, officers and men, 317; missing, officers and men, 155; total known loss, 523.

It would be difficult in this report to mention in detail the names of officers who particularly acquitted themselves with credit during these days. With scarcely an exception their conduct was deserving of the highest praise. I desire, however, to mention Col. T. J. Lucas, Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, commanding First Brigade, as an officer on whom I learned to repose the most perfect

*See Whittier's report, p. 464.

reliance in the discharge of all the varied duties of an active campaign. He deserves promotion. The other brigade commanders discharged their duties well.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LEE,
Brigadier-General, late Commanding Cavalry Division.

Maj. George B. Drake,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf.

No. 82.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Richard Arnold, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of engagement at Monett's Ferry and skirmish (May 2) at Wilson's Landing.

Hdqrs. Cavalry Division, Dept. of the Gulf,
Alexandria, La., May 5, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of three brigades of cavalry under my command in the operations against the enemy at Cane River on the 23d ultimo: In accordance with General Emory's instructions of the 22d of April, Colonel Gooding's command, the Fifth Brigade, was moved forward at 5 a. m. of the 23d, and immediately engaged the enemy, driving the skirmishers steadily forward until they crossed the river. Colonel Davis' brigade was posted partly on Gooding's left and in rear to support his command, and, if necessary, the left flank. Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs' brigade was held in reserve. As soon as the advance of the enemy had been driven across the river a brisk fire of artillery was opened upon the cavalry in the plain, when, by General Emory's orders, all but the dismounted men were withdrawn, and a line of infantry skirmishers thrown forward. The artillery was then placed in position and the cavalry withdrawn under cover of the woods. Colonel Davis was then ordered to move his command through the woods to the left to the river and endeavor to find a practicable ford, in order to cross to attack the enemy's right and rear. Colonel Davis, owing to swampy ground, ravines, &c., did not reach the river until afternoon, and not finding any practicable ford was then ordered to make positive demonstration on the enemy's right to divert their attention from the movement on the left. He succeeded in driving about 200 of the enemy across the stream. While these operations were going on the First Vermont Battery, under Captain Hebard, was moved forward through the woods at the suggestion of Colonel Chrysler, and immediately opened with most admirable effect upon the principal battery of the enemy near the ferry, and soon forced it to retire. About this time the Second New York [Veteran] Cavalry, under Colonel Chrysler, was specially selected to move through the woods upon the open plain and determine if the enemy were still in force in our front. This service was handsomely performed and deserves commendation. Discovering confusion in their ranks, the colonel immediately ordered his men across the field, forded the stream, and occupied the heights just abandoned. The enemy being in full retreat, this regiment was immediately ordered in pursuit, followed by the Second Illinois, and

subsequently by the Third Brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, and but for mistaking the road over which the main force retired, it being late in the day and nearly dark, must have captured a large number of the enemy, then completely routed by General Birge's command, which attacked on the left flank.

No reports of the killed and wounded of the various commands have been submitted.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD ARNOLD.
Brigadier-General, Chief of Cavalry.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Alexandria, La., May 5, 1864.

The within report should have gone in with my report of the 27th, but was only received to-day. It is proper to state that the reference in this report to the First Vermont Battery requires this correction: There was only one gun of this battery at the place referred to. Captain Hinkle, First Indiana, was in command of the battery, composed of pieces from several batteries, and that place was suggested by Colonel Chrysler. It was after it had been selected and determined upon to place a battery there as soon as it was proper to do so. See my report and that of chief of artillery, Captain Closson. If it is of any consequence, and I think it is, it is due to Captain Morey and Captain Rice, both of the Sixth Massachusetts Cavalry, to say they both called attention to the place early in the morning. I have already in my report commended Colonel Chrysler, whose gallant conduct I was eye-witness to, and who was sent by me in pursuit. In submitting this report, I take pleasure in stating that the cavalry generally, directed by General Arnold, although unfortunate in missing the road when I sent them in pursuit, behaved very well on that day, particularly the Fifth Brigade, Colonel Gooding commanding.

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, DEPT. OF THE GULF,
Alexandria, May 2, 1864.

MAJOR: Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, with his force of 500 men, sent below at 2 o'clock this morning, has returned. He reports that 10 miles below here he met a considerable picket force of the enemy. He drove them as far as Wilson's Landing, where he met a force variously estimated at from 500 to 1,500 strong. After moderate skirmishing the rebels opened upon him with one piece of artillery. Deeming that no advantage would result from an attack, Colonel Crebs held his ground for a while, and then slowly retired, the enemy not following. Having proceeded 2 or 3 miles on his return, the colonel met transports moving down river, and immediately faced his column about and moved toward the enemy to prevent his firing upon our boats. The boats having passed without molestation the command was moved back to camp without incident. From

both blacks and whites was learned that a considerable rebel cavalry force was stationed at Cheneyville, with some artillery. More definite information could not be obtained. Colonel Crebs believed the enemy's force at Wilson's Landing about 500 strong. He could not learn without a decided attack whether more than one piece of artillery was on the ground. No artillery moved with our column. The rebel position was between a swamp, not easily turned, and Red River.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD ARNOLD,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 83.

Report of Capt. Ormand F. Nims, Second Massachusetts Battery, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. BATTERY B, MASSACHUSETTS LIGHT HORSE ARTY.,
Grand Ecore, La., April 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that my company left Natchitoches April 6, at daylight, marching in the center of the division as reserve artillery; encamped with the Third Brigade at Crump's Corners; distance marched, 23 miles. April 7, marched at 6 a. m. in the center of the division as reserve artillery. Reached Pleasant Hill at 1 p. m.; was ordered to the front (Wilson's farm), but being unable to get into position was ordered back to Pleasant Hill; at 7 p. m. moved up to Wilson's farm and encamped. April 8, marched at 6 a. m. in the advance. At 8 a. m. four pieces were ordered to the front of the column; went into position in the road, and shelled the woods in front. Moved in that position until we reached a position one-half mile from Sabine Cross-Roads, where we went into battery and shelled the enemy from the heights. Then the whole was ordered into position on the heights. Four pieces in battery to the front and two pieces in battery to the right flank within 250 yards of the woods. Upon the approach of the enemy, who came out of the woods in front and on the right flank, the battery opened fire, using shell and canister with good effect, repulsing three successive charges of the enemy; within twenty minutes from the time when the action commenced, the battery was ordered to retire from the hill, the infantry support having previously retired in disorder. Three pieces were taken to the rear in good order. Three pieces were left on the field, being unable to remove them on account of the horses being disabled. During the action First Lieut. Warren K. Snow received a mortal wound while assisting to limber up a gun. He fell into the hands of the enemy. Second Lieut. Charles B. Slack was slightly wounded in the neck. The pieces that were brought off were prepared for action, but in consequence of the panic and the enemy's pressing upon the flanks were placed in the road, preparatory to marching in retreat. The roads becoming blocked with teams, from which the mules had been detached, we were compelled to abandon the pieces brought from the hill as well as the caissons, baggage wagons, battery wagon, and forge.

April 9, the company arrived at Pleasant Hill at 2 a. m. At noon the company was ordered to march with the Cavalry Division ammunition train, acting as guard to the same. Marched at noon and all night. April 10, arrived at Grand Ecore at 4 p. m., where we are now encamped. Casualties, 2 commissioned officers wounded, 16 enlisted men wounded, 1 enlisted man killed, 1 enlisted man missing, 64 horses, 18 mules lost.

I have the honor to remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORMAND F. NIMS,
Captain, Comdg. Battery B, Mass. Light Horse Artillery.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD ARNOLD,
Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

No. 84.

Report of Col. Thomas J. Lucas, Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, commanding First Cavalry Brigade, of affair at Henderson's Hill.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Near Alexandria, La., March 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from headquarters Cavalry Division, I reported at 5 o'clock the morning of 21st instant, with the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, Sixth Missouri Cavalry, Second Louisiana Mounted Infantry, and Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, to Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding Red River expedition, for orders, and was by him directed to report to Brigadier-General Mower. General Mower ordered me to place my command in the advance on the Bayou Rapides road, 13 miles beyond Alexandria. I met the enemy in small force, and drove them 7 miles to Henderson's Hill. The Louisiana cavalry (rebel) were holding the hill, occupying a very strong position. Arrived in front of their position, I was ordered to report one regiment of cavalry and a section of artillery to the general to make a detour and take the enemy in rear, while with the remainder of my command I should occupy their attention and present a front which with the force thrown in rear would prevent their escape. The Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Redfield, and a section of Rawles' battery proceeded in accordance with the directions, marching 16 miles to the rear of the enemy, reaching the pickets at about 9.30 p. m. With the remainder of my command I occupied the enemy's attention until Colonel Redfield with his force had entered the rebel camp. Colonel Redfield captured, when near the enemy's camp, a courier with dispatches from General Taylor to Colonel Vincent. The dispatches were sent to General Mower. He successively captured, without firing a shot and without giving general alarm, the picket guarding the camp. A portion of the regiment advanced into the camp, while another detachment was thrown in the direction of General Taylor's army to guard against any attack upon the rear of the command from re-enforcements. A body of the enemy were met, said by prisoners to be the advance of re-enforcements, and driven back. A major, captain on Taylor's staff, 1 lieutenant, and

36 enlisted men were captured here, chiefly from the relieving force. This body of the enemy was as completely surprised as the other. Captain Doxey, with two companies of the Sixteenth Indiana, had the advance on entering the rebel camp, but infantry was soon deployed on his right, and the mounted and dismounted men advanced in line, capturing almost without resistance the astonished enemy. Four pieces of artillery were captured, two by the mounted men as they were being brought into action. I do not know the number of prisoners captured, as they were immediately turned over to the infantry. I suppose 300 officers and men and 400 horses were taken. I am gratified to state that Colonel Redfield's command captured the enemy's famous scout Smith and 15 of his men. At daylight next morning I was directed to make a reconnaissance to Bowles' Ford, where we surprised and captured a picket post of a lieutenant and 6 men. Further on we captured 2 more men. On returning, was directed to move to camp 10 miles from Alexandria, guarding the rear of the infantry. My loss was 2 men killed and wounded and 3 missing. Will report their names at once.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. LUCAS,
Colonel, Comdg. First Brigade, Cavalry Division.

Capt. F. W. EMERY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 85.

Report of Capt. Francis H. Whittier, Thirtieth Massachusetts Infantry, Acting Assistant Quartermaster, Fourth Cavalry Brigade, of wagons lost at Sabine Cross-Roads.

HDQRS. FOURTH BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, Grand Ecore, April 18, 1864.

COLONEL: In reply to the communication referred to me this day by you from headquarters Cavalry Division, requiring a statement of the number of wagons lost during the engagement of the 8th instant, and further as to the orders I received in regard to the same, I would respectfully state that on the night of the 7th instant my train was parked at Wilson's farm, about 3 miles beyond Pleasant Hill. It consisted of eighty-five 6-mule army wagons (the mules in excellent condition and the wagons in good order), eight 2-horse ambulances, and one 6-horse medicine wagon, loaded with medical stores. At an early hour on the 8th instant it was moved forward, in rear of the train of the First Brigade, in obedience to an order received from headquarters Cavalry Division. During the forenoon of the 8th instant, about 10 or 11 o'clock, the head of the train reached a creek near Carroll's Mill, from 5 to 6 miles this side of the battle-field of Sabine Cross-Roads. Heavy skirmishing being reported and heard in front, the train of the First Brigade was halted, thereby compelling me to halt my train. My standing orders from you were, when firing was heard in front to any considerable extent, to draw my train out on the side of the road when possible to do so, in order to permit troops or artillery to pass either way; and also to so arrange my train that I could easily pass it without con-

fusion or difficulty to the front or rear, as might be necessary. A bridge was being built over the creek I have referred to, Major-General Banks and staff and Major-General Franklin and staff being for a time present observing its construction. As soon as the bridge was completed the train began to cross, and Major-General Franklin then directed me to keep my train closed up. I think his words were, "Do your best to keep the train well closed." The train was accordingly advanced steadily until it reached the point where it was finally captured. Here it was halted on account of the heavy firing in front. I then moved the greater portion of my train to an open space on either side of the road. The train remained in this position until Brigadier-General Cameron's command and two batteries of artillery had passed by me up to the front. Having been to the front, from my own observation and the information I received I thought it possible that the troops in front might be compelled to fall back until re-enforcements came up, and, if so, they would require the open space my train then occupied to form new lines of battle. I therefore asked Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, chief quartermaster, if I had not better move my train back, and he replied, "No; you must not turn a single wagon;" adding, "If you lose your wagons lose them facing the enemy." I therefore remained with the trains in the position I have described until the rout became general, when I received an order from Major Howe, acting assistant adjutant-general, Cavalry Division, to move my train to the rear, which order I commenced to execute, when I found the road in my rear, at a point near a slough, blockaded by capsized and stalled teams belonging to another brigade, which made it wholly impossible to carry out the order further. In this position the entire train was captured. I would further state that previous to the instructions I received from Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, Captain Hoge, division quartermaster, told me that the instructions were positive not to move the train to the rear.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

F. H. WHITTIER,
Capt. and Acty. Asst. Quartermaster, Fourth Brig.

Col. N. A. M. DUDLEY,
Commanding Fourth Brigade, Cav. Division.

No. 86.

Report of Capt. Elbert H. Fordham, Thirty-first Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, of operations May 14–18.

HDQRS. THIRTY-FIRST MASSACHUSETTS VOLS. (CAVALRY),
Near Morganza, May 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Thirty-first Massachusetts Volunteers (Cavalry) moved with the brigade from Chambers' plantation on the morning of the 14th instant. By order of Colonel Davis I reported with the regiment to Major Marsh, Second Illinois Cavalry, commanding the rear guard. At about 2 p. m. the enemy attacked our rear and brought a force of from 200 to 300 on our left flank. By direction of Major Marsh I dismounted the regiment, repulsed the attack in rear, and drove the enemy from our left. In this engagement my loss was 2 killed and 1 wounded. On the 15th, skirmished with the enemy on the left in woods; no casualties.

On the 16th, my regiment was associated with the Second Illinois Cavalry in bringing up the rear. At 7 a. m. of the 17th, being still in rear, the enemy advanced on us in large force. My regiment and the Second Illinois held them in check until ordered within a new line formed by other regiments of the brigade. It being reported to Colonel Davis that the enemy was in our front as well as rear, by his order I took my regiment forward to ascertain. Found the enemy's skirmishers strongly posted across the bayou. I dismounted two squadrons, under Lieuts. N. F. Bond and Hayden, with orders to drive the enemy away, which was handsomely executed. The Thirty-first bore no important part in the action of that morning, being at first posted on the extreme left, and afterward ordered to the right of the line. At 12 m. I was ordered to report with the regiment to Colonel Gooding, commanding Fifth Cavalry Brigade, and by him was ordered to cover the left of the army in retiring. On this afternoon I lost 1 officer missing and 1 man taken prisoner. The former assistant surgeon, E. P. Clark, had been engaged in assisting the wounded and is supposed to have fallen into the enemy's hands. Encamped this night on the Yellow Bayou. On the 18th, my regiment was sent early in the morning to support the pickets. Four squadrons were sent to the right, the remaining five to the left. Two of the former, A and F, under Capt. L. F. Rice, I sent to hold a row of houses immediately in front of the picket-line. At 9 a. m. the enemy charged the pickets heavily on the right, left, and center, at the same time opening briskly from across the bayou in rear of the right of the line. Our right was forced back on the support, creating a momentary confusion, but my officers and myself soon rallied the men, charged the enemy, and drove him beyond his point of attack, regaining our former position. My loss on this occasion was 3 men wounded.

The regiment held its position until 10.30 a. m., when General Mower came up with infantry and artillery to attack the enemy. A and F squadrons, under Captain Rice, advanced as skirmishers on the bayou road to the open ground beyond the woods, where they remained until the infantry came up, when they were withdrawn to the cover of the woods. They afterward took position on the right of a battery; skirmished with the enemy until he was repulsed. When the enemy again advanced they fought them until their ammunition was exhausted, when they rejoined the regiment on the left. The rest of the regiment, about 125 officers and men, under my command, advanced with the left of the line. When the line of battle was formed my regiment was posted on the extreme left and rear, to prevent a flank attack. I threw out a line of skirmishers, H and D squadrons, under Lieuts. N. F. Bond and W. H. Pelton, connecting on the right with the infantry line of skirmishers. The enemy soon advanced in large force, and almost instantly the skirmishers of the regiment on my right began falling back. In a few minutes the regiment itself, without firing a shot, went to the rear, out of my sight. This movement left my right exposed, so that the enemy got in rear of the right of my skirmishers, when Lieutenant Bond, commanding the skirmish line, ordered his men to retire slowly, firing. As the enemy came on, by direction of Captain Allen, acting assistant adjutant-general, I moved the regiment about 50 yards to the left, wheeled into line, and commenced firing. The enemy outnumbering us at least five to one, I was compelled to fall back, which I did slowly, in good order, and firing constantly until

I reached the opening behind the woods, where I formed on the left of a battery, which was supported by a regiment of infantry. The fire of the latter temporarily checked the advance of the enemy. I improved the opportunity to draw sabers and ordered a charge. I completely routed the enemy, killing and wounding many and capturing 28 prisoners, among them 2 captains and 1 lieutenant. The prisoners represented six different regiments of mounted infantry. I then retired to the opening before mentioned, and by order of Colonel Davis took position on the left of the second line, where I remained until about 10 p. m., when with the rest of the brigade I moved across Yellow Bayou to the Atchafalaya. My loss in this engagement was 6 men killed, 1 officer and 24 men wounded, and 1 missing.

In closing this report, I have to express my warmest approbation of the conduct of all my officers and men throughout the entire march. To make comparisons would seem invidious. Every officer and man did his duty—his whole duty.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. H. FORDHAM,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. W. I. ALLEN,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fourth Brigade.

No. 87.

Reports of Col. Oliver P. Gooding, Thirty-first Massachusetts Mounted Infantry, commanding Fifth Cavalry Brigade, of skirmish at Campti and engagement at Monett's Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to orders from Major-General Franklin, I marched on the 3d instant to the village of Grand Ecore, on the Red River, with a detachment of the Second New York Veteran Cavalry, 250 strong, under Colonel Chrysler; a detachment of the Eighteenth New York Cavalry, 80 strong, under Colonel Byrne, and a detachment of the Third Rhode Island Cavalry, 200 strong, under Major Davis, and reported in person to Brigadier-General Arnold, U. S. Volunteers. The same evening my command was transferred to the opposite shore of the river, and pursuant to orders from General Arnold I reported to Brig. Gen. A. J. Smith, commanding detachments Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps. General Smith ordered me to proceed the next morning with my command to the village of Campti, 6 miles distant, and drive the enemy's forces from that place, but not to pass beyond the town. He at the same time notified me that there would be an infantry force ordered to take position on a bayou, 3 miles below the village, upon which I could fall back or call upon for support whenever I might find I was unable to handle the enemy with my own force. On the morning of the 4th instant I marched as ordered, placing Colonel Byrne in advance with his detachment of the Eighteenth New York Cavalry, followed by detachment of Second New York Veteran Cavalry, under Colonel Chrysler, that followed by detachment of Third Rhode Island Cavalry, under Major Davis. On reaching the village my advance was fired upon from the houses. I immediately sent Major Davis to burn the town and intercept the retreat of the enemy,

which movement was prevented by the fire from one of our gun-boats lying just below the village. The position was favorable to the movement ordered, and but for the fire of the gun-boat would in all probability have resulted in the capture of all the enemy's forces in the village. The enemy retired from the village, and attempted to form a line on a hill just in rear of the same, but was so hard pressed by my advance that he broke and rapidly retreated across a bayou, some 500 yards distant, tearing up the bridge as he went. The Eighteenth New York Cavalry pursued them in the wood, fighting them as skirmishers, and near the bridge Captain Power was wounded and fell from his horse while gallantly leading his men. Owing to the convex form of the bridge it appeared unbroken from our side of the bayou, and I ordered the Second New York Veteran Cavalry to charge the same, which was gallantly done; but finding when on the bridge about 10 feet of it on the side next the enemy torn up, they wheeled about and slowly retired under a severe fire. They were then by my order dismounted and fought on foot. I then sent Captain Bushee with one squadron Third Rhode Island Cavalry, dismounted, to turn the enemy's right flank, while I held the remainder of that regiment in reserve on the road, mounted and with sabers drawn. After a severe contest of about fifty minutes the enemy rapidly retreated through the woods.

When the fighting first commenced I sent Lieutenant Payne, of my staff, to order up the infantry, which arrived, however, too late to engage the enemy or to be of any assistance whatever to me. The commander of the infantry, although my junior in rank by six months, was not ordered to report to me, but came with written orders from his commanding general for his guidance. Leaving the infantry to take care of the road, I marched with my cavalry on a road leading north from the town, where my information led me to believe a portion of the enemy's force was posted. About 1 mile from the village my advance came upon a squad of 15 or 20 rebels, which I ordered Captain Perry, of the Third Rhode Island Cavalry, to charge with his company, which was gallantly done, resulting in the capture of 1 prisoner. I continued my march about 2 miles farther, and came upon the burning camp from which General Liddell, with a superior force of artillery and cavalry, rapidly retreated before my advance. I then returned to the village and destroyed every house from which a shot had been fired by the enemy at the beginning of the action. I then collected my dead and wounded and sent them to the transports opposite Grand Ecore, and slowly retired to my camp of the night before, opposite Grand Ecore. My loss was 4 killed and 18 wounded. Among the killed was First Lieut. M. S. Dunn, acting adjutant Second New York Veteran Cavalry, who fell like a true soldier. From the dead found on the field, prisoners taken, and statements of citizens, white and black, on the enemy's line of retreat, I am enabled to estimate his loss at 8 killed, among whom were 2 commissioned officers, about 18 or 20 wounded, and 3 prisoners.

I desire to express in this report my entire satisfaction at the conduct of regimental commanders and their commands. My thanks are due to members of my staff for valuable services on the occasion.

Repectfully, your obedient servant,

O. P. GOODING,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major HOFFMAN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Nineteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, near Alexandria, La., April 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to orders from Brigadier-General Arnold, chief of cavalry, I marched with my brigade, accompanied by one section Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, under Lieutenant Baldwin, on the 21st instant, from Grand Ecore, La., to occupy Monett's Ferry, across Cane River. On the march I learned from citizens, white and black, that the enemy, from 5,000 to 7,000, strong with ten pieces of artillery, under Generals Bee and Major, had gone below to occupy Monett's Ferry and cut off our retreat. About 1 o'clock in the morning of the 22d instant my advance came upon the enemy's pickets and exchanged shots with them, mortally wounding 1 and losing 1 man killed and 1 wounded. The enemy retired toward Cloutierville, and at the same time I discovered a large body of cavalry coming down the road on the opposite side of Cane River, and placed my command in position at the crossing to receive them. Fortunately I discovered in time to prevent accident that it was the Fourth Brigade of our cavalry division, under Colonel Davis. Leaving this brigade at the crossing, I proceeded with my command toward Cloutierville and drove in the enemy's pickets, and about 1 mile from the village discovered the enemy in position, flanking my approach both on the right and left. I then halted, placed my command in position, and ordered up the Fourth Brigade, and after some maneuvering on both sides, each expecting the other to attack, the enemy retired beyond the town, followed by my advance, the Third Rhode Island Cavalry, which skirmished with them, driving them 5 miles beyond the town, where I encamped for the night.

On the morning of the 23d instant I proceeded with my command, the Eighteenth New York Cavalry in advance, toward the ferry, skirmishing with the enemy all the way. The enemy retired before my advance across an open plain toward the ferry, from which he opened fire with artillery. Discovering a range of hills on the opposite side of the river which flanked the plain, I ordered all but my line of skirmishers to halt, and immediately sent an order to Lieutenant Dolan, commanding company of Second New York Veteran Cavalry, on the opposite side of the river, to reconnoiter the hills, which he did, finding the enemy in position. I then sent Captain Morey, of my staff, to report the situation to General Emory, by whose order I retired my cavalry to the rear. Later in the day the Second New York Veteran Cavalry was ordered to advance toward the right of the enemy's position in order to divert his attention from a flank attack about to be made on his left by General Birge. The artillery firing from the range of hills on the enemy's left having ceased, about 50 men of the Second New York Veteran Cavalry were ordered to cross the field in front of his position and ascertain, if possible, if it had been abandoned. They were fired upon from the woods opposite, but advanced to the river bank and remained there. Subsequently, at Colonel Chrysler's request, a battery of artillery was sent to the point of woods directly in front of the enemy's main position on the right. It having opened a brisk fire on their position and Colonel Chrysler discovering considerable confusion among the enemy in consequence, his regiment was advanced under considerable fire directly across the field in front of this position. A portion of his regiment crossed the ferry and posted their colors on the enemy's abandoned position, which move-

ments were executed in a manner highly creditable to Colonel Chrysler and his regiment. Discovering that the enemy had evacuated in great haste, as soon as the regiment could be mounted the Second New York pursued them, but, unfortunately, not understanding the roads, were misled and the enemy escaped with his artillery. The Second New York was encamped for the night about 8 miles beyond the ferry; the balance of my brigade I encamped about a half mile below the ferry. I marched on the morning of the 24th instant, covering the flanks of the train, encamping on Bayou Rapides, about 3 miles below Henderson's Hill. On the morning of the 25th, I marched my brigade on the flank of the train and on the opposite side of Bayou Rapides through Alexandria, and encamped on General Bailey's plantation, about 5 miles below the town. During the whole march my command captured — prisoners.

Throughout the whole march my command behaved to my entire satisfaction. The Eighteenth New York Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Byrne, having the advance at the time the position of the enemy's artillery was developed, drove the enemy handsomely, and to Colonel Byrne and his regiment my thanks are due. The Third Rhode Island Cavalry was ably commanded by Capt. Asa A. Ellis, and did well what was required of them. To Captain Perry and Captain Morey, of my staff, I desire to express my appreciation of their valuable services. A portion of the Third Rhode Island Cavalry, just arrived in the department and on their way from New Orleans to Alexandria, was attacked while on transports in Red River. I inclose report of Lieutenant-Colonel Parkhurst, who commanded the detachment at the time. I also inclose a detailed report* of casualties.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

O. P. GOODING,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. F. W. Emery,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Division.

No. 88.

Report of Capt. William Davis, Eighteenth New York Cavalry, of engagement at Sabine Cross-Roads.

Headquarters Eighteenth New York Cavalry,
Camp near Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report the part taken by my squadron in the battle near Mansfield, on the afternoon of the 8th instant. Being temporarily attached to Brigadier-General Ransom, commanding detachment of Thirteenth Army Corps, was left by him on the road near 1½ miles from the battle-field. Having nothing to do, and no one to give me any instructions, I reported to Colonel Lucas, commanding First Cavalry Brigade, who ordered me to form on the right of the Fourteenth New York Cavalry. Reported to Major Bassford, of the Fourteenth, who assigned me to the position ordered by Colonel Lucas, and remained there during the whole time they were under fire. Being left on the field when the Fourteenth retired, and

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*Not found.

seeing no support near me, I also retired and formed again on the right of Colonel Dudley's brigade, and left the field after they had retired. The following is a list of the casualties:*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM DAVIS,
Captain, Commanding Squadron.

Capt. F. W. EMERY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 89.

Reports of Maj. George R. Davis, Third Rhode Island Cavalry, of skirmish at Campti and engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. THIRD RHODE ISLAND CAVALRY,
In the Field, near Grand Ecore, La., April 13, 1864.

GENERAL: I herein inclose a report of the participation of this battalion in a skirmish which took place at Campti, La., on the opposite side of Red River, on the 3d [4th] of April, 1864. I crossed Red River at Grand Ecore, in pursuance of orders, on the afternoon of the 3d of April, 1864. Sent one squadron down the river road 4 miles to ascertain if there was any enemy in that direction; the squadron reported back at 9 p. m., under command of Captain Perry, that there was no enemy in that direction. I was ordered, on the morning of April 4, 1864, to march. Taking position in the center of the brigade I marched my command to the vicinity of Campti, when I received orders to flank the town, which I at once performed, on the right and rear; and while in line of battle, advancing upon the town, I halted my command on account of the firing of the gun-boats, whose range was within 20 yards of my front. I immediately sent word to the colonel commanding concerning it. I was then ordered to move forward by the right flank across the bayou, and take position upon the hill in the rear of the town, which I immediately performed. I then formed my command in column of platoons and caused the saber to be drawn. I then moved forward in column within supporting distance of the Second New York Veteran Cavalry, which had taken position near the bridge. I dismounted 12 men and deployed them as skirmishers on the right flank, under charge of Lieutenant Tefft. I then dismounted the remainder of the First Squadron and all of the Second to fight on foot; sent them, in pursuance of orders, under charge of Captain Bushee, with orders to march to the bayou, cross it if possible, find the enemy and fight him, and dislodge them from the bridge by the right flank. The captain marched his command to the bayou and crossed on the left flank, at which time, or immediately previous, the enemy retreated from the bridge. I was then ordered to countermarch my command and move down the road leading to the church to the right. After moving down the road about half a mile the skirmishers were fired upon by the pickets of the enemy stationed at that point, when the first platoon of the

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 officer and 1 man killed, 1 officer and 8 men wounded, and 2 men missing. Twenty horses were also lost.

Third Squadron was ordered to charge down the road, which was promptly performed under command of Captain Perry. The enemy immediately retreated. In this charge I had 1 man wounded and 1 horse killed, and captured 1 prisoner, mounted, who belonged to the Second Louisiana Mounted Infantry. I then moved down the road, in pursuance of orders, about 2 miles, and finding no enemy was ordered to retire, forming the rear guard. The command was halted upon the hill near the church and pickets thrown out; was then ordered to retire toward Grand Ecore, encamping on the side of Red River opposite to Grand Ecore. Ordered to march at daylight the following morning, took up the line of march at 6 a. m., April 5, position on the right of brigade; was ordered to send forward a platoon to move rapidly to Campti. I sent forward first platoon of First Squadron, under command of Lieutenant Tefft. Finding no enemy, I marched to the rear of the town and formed line of battle on the hill, rear of the church, and picketed the road to the front and to the left as far as the bridge. In pursuance of orders I then sent forward Acting Second Lieutenant Wilson, with 12 men, to cross the bridge and move up the road 4 miles. He reported in about two hours that he had advanced 4 or 5 miles and found no enemy. Was then ordered to return; crossed Red River on the evening 5th of April; arrived in camp at 3.30 o'clock on the 6th of April.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE R. DAVIS,
Major, Comdg. First Batt., Third Rhode Island Cav.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD C. MAURAN,
Adjutant-General, State of Rhode Island.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD RHODE ISLAND CAVALRY,
In the Field, near Grand Ecore, La., April 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken by this command in the action of April 9, 1864: I received orders from headquarters Fifth Brigade to report one squadron to Brigadier-General Smith at 5 a. m. April 9, 1864. Captain Bushee reported with the Second Squadron. I received orders to picket the road on the left and front of Pleasant Hill for 5 miles. I ordered Captain Perry with his troop (I) to perform this duty upon the left (first) road, and First Lieutenant Avery, with troop K, the second road on the left. I then marched the remainder of my command, one squadron, under command of Captain Bicknell, to the front on road leading to Texas, placing the reserve at 2 miles distant from the hill, and went forward and posted the vedettes out for 3 miles farther, capturing 2 of the enemy's mounted pickets. I was ordered, in about an hour, to slowly withdraw my pickets. They retired slowly, skirmishing as they came in. I withdrew the reserve to the left of the line of battle formed by the infantry on my right, and formed a skirmish line three-quarters of a mile in length in the front. The skirmishers having more ground to cover than they could properly protect, I re-enforced them with my whole reserve save 8 men, and sent my horses to the rear of a line of battle formed by infantry at my left. My skirmishers on the left were quite actively engaged, and having no support to give them, ordered them

to retire a few yards to a good front, and sent word to the colonel commanding that I must have assistance sent or retire. I was ordered to hold the position until properly relieved. The skirmishing was quite active, and continued for one hour, when I was notified that I was soon to be relieved by the covering regiment, which was accomplished about 4 p. m., when I returned to my camp. The position was not given up, and was well held by the men engaged. Both officers and men performed their duty to my entire satisfaction. My loss was 5 wounded, 2 missing in action. The enemy were punished considerably on the left; I know of none in the front. Lieutenant Avery, who picketed the second road on the left, repulsed and routed two of the enemy's scouting parties. Captain Perry, who picketed the first road on the left, has not yet reported. I understand that while returning to his regiment he was ordered to wait the pleasure of General Smith.

I am, captain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE R. DAVIS,
Major, Commanding.

Capt. B. F. MOREY,
Acty. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Fifth Brigade.

No. 90.

Report of Lieut. Col. Charles H. Parkhurst, Third Rhode Island Cavalry, of voyage from New Orleans to Alexandria.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD RHODE ISLAND CAVALRY,
Alexandria, La., April 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of our voyage from New Orleans to this place: In obedience to orders from General Reynolds, we embarked on board the steamer Superior Tuesday night, April 19, and sailed the next morning. Nothing of particular interest occurred until we reached Tunica Bend, some 30 miles below the mouth of the Red River, when we were fired upon by the rebels from the easterly bank of the Mississippi. They had a 6-pounder well supported by infantry. Three shell and shot passed through the cabin, and Corporal Logue, of Company F, received a severe gunshot wound in the right arm, badly shattering the bones. This was the only casualty. At the mouth of the Red River we took the convoy of a gun-boat, and when we drew up for the night had a slight picket skirmish. The next day, Friday, we started a little in advance of the gun-boat, and when we were about 30 miles below this place we were again attacked by guerrillas with two pieces of artillery, with cavalry and infantry. From the narrowness of the river we were exposed for some time to a most galling fire. My men were posted as well as the character of the vessel permitted, and we succeeded in driving the men from their guns by the well-directed fire of our carbines. The gun-boat was aground at the time some distance below us, and could therefore give us no assistance. After we had got out of range of their artillery, the boat was run upon the easterly shore, and I put my men on shore and posted them dismounted so as to prevent the rebels from getting a position where they could annoy us further, and awaited the arrival of the gun-boat.

When she made her appearance we embarked again, and proceeded under her convoy up the river, being several times fired into from the shore. We allowed no guerrilla to show his head upon the shore without paying him the necessary leaden compliment, and we reached here about 3 p. m. yesterday.

Where all, both officers and men, did so well, it is unnecessary to make distinctions. No men could have defended themselves with more bravery and coolness than did my entire command. I cannot omit to pay a cordial tribute of respect and admiration to Mrs. Charles H. Gordon and Mrs. Horace P. Lester for their constant and unceasing attention and kindness to the wounded and dying as they were brought into the saloon. And to the officers and men of my command, one and all, I can only say that no officer ever had braver or more efficient and faithful officers under his command than those of the Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES H. PARKHURST,
Lieut. Col. Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

Col. WILLARD SAYLES,
Commanding Third Rhode Island Cavalry.

No. 91.

Report of Lieut. Commander K. Randolph Breese, U. S. Navy, of the capture of the steamer City Belle.

U. S. STEAMER BLACK HAWK,
Mouth of Red River, May 4, 1864—p. m.

SIR: I regret to inform you that the transport City Belle was captured and destroyed by the rebels about 30 miles above Fort De Russy. She had on board an Ohio regiment and a bearer of dispatches from Washington to General Banks, all of whom, with the exception of half a dozen, were captured or killed. They made a gallant fight, I am informed, but it is a pity she should have gone without convoy. Will you please instruct the transports bound to Alexandria not to go beyond Black River without convoy, and to report to me or the senior naval officer at this place for instructions?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

K. R. BREESE,
Lieutenant-Commander, Commanding.

COMMANDING GENERAL AT NEW ORLEANS.

No. 92.

Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army, of the capture of steamers on Red River, &c.

PORT HUDSON, *May* 6, 1864.

I have the honor to report that the telegraph lines are down, both above and below this post. The steamer Shreveport has just arrived, returning from attempting to ascend the Red River. She has on board several detachments of colored regiments and a portion of the Fifty-sixth Ohio. Lieut. Col. J. F. Wade, General Banks' staff, reports batteries are located 20 to 25 miles above Fort De Russy, on

the right bank of the river, supported by a heavy force of infantry. The steamer Emma has been destroyed; also the City Belle, the One hundred and twentieth Ohio, 700 strong, being on board. About one-half the regiment escaped, and are on the left bank of the river, and are said to be near Alexandria. The loss on board the Emma not known. The John Warner was destroyed yesterday morning, the Fifty-sixth Ohio on board. Two hundred and fifteen are here, on board the steamer Shreveport. Two gun-boats are said to have been destroyed. Colonel Bassett, Seventy-third Regiment U. S. Infantry (colored), is killed; colonel of the Fifty-sixth Ohio left behind wounded. Communication is entirely cut off with Alexandria. Captain Breese, commanding the fleet, states he has no gun-boats that can run by the batteries. It was thought that a force was about to leave Alexandria to open communication, but nothing certain known. Citizens report a force moving down to occupy Fort De Russy. Vessels are detained at the mouth of Red River by the gun-boats. Officers on board steamer Shreveport report a piece of artillery seen on the bank of Mississippi, about 15 miles above this post. Captain Riggs, Ninety-second U. S. Infantry (colored), was on board steamer City Belle, destroyed by the batteries about 20 miles above Fort De Russy; One hundred and twentieth Ohio on board. The loss of this regiment I understand to be one-third. The battery which fired on us consisted of two 20-pounder Parrotts on the right bank of the river, supported, as citizens state, by 1,000 infantry. I saw the pieces. My detachment consisted of 50 men, with another officer. The vessel was burned. Many were saved by jumping from the vessel and proceeding to the shores. Infantry fire was hot on both sides. About 5,000 rebels are reported near the batteries in reserve. Colonel Bassett, First Regiment, Corps d'Afrique; Colonel Mudd, Second Illinois Cavalry, and Colonel Spiegel, One hundred and twentieth Ohio, are known to be killed. Capt. M. Manring, Fifty-sixth Ohio, reports:

I left Alexandria with my regiment, 250 strong, May 4, at 9.30 a. m., on steamer John Warner. About 25 miles below Alexandria, at 5 p. m., we were fired upon from the shore by a force of infantry, estimated at about 500. We passed, when one of the gun-boats, Covington, broke her rudder. We could not repair and reach Fort De Russy that night; so we laid up till most morning, at 5 o'clock. At that hour we proceeded down the river about 2 miles, transport in the advance, when firing commenced on the boat by infantry. The tiller got out of order and the rudder would not work. Boat stopped, when artillery opened on us both above and below. The first shot cut the steam-pipe; this at daybreak. Fire was returned by infantry on transport till about 8 a. m. Fifteen shots of artillery went through the cabin; 4 through the pilot-house. During this 34 men were killed and wounded. Gun-boats were firing all this time. The colonel commanding ordered the regiment to leave the boat and go on shore, it having been fired twice. Colonel Raynor, commanding, was wounded and taken prisoner. I was ordered to go on board the gun-boat, which was beyond the battery. Before the regiment could be formed the gun-boat had left the shore. I saw it was impossible to gain a boat, so I marched through the woods to the river below.

I have the honor further to state that the rebels are reported to me to be in stronger force than they have been heretofore. I respectfully request that I be not long left without a steamer attached to the post.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. J. S. CROSBY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

No. 93.

Reports of General E. Kirby Smith, C. S. Army, commanding Trans-Mississippi Department, including operations February 21–June 30.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Thirteenth Army Corps, of General Banks' command, was signally defeated 3 miles below Mansfield, La., on the afternoon of the 8th. The Nineteenth Army Corps coming to its support was repulsed with loss and in disorder. Re-enforced by parts of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, the enemy in force made a stand at Pleasant Hill, a strong position, 20 miles below Mansfield. Our troops attacked with impetuosity on the afternoon of the 9th. Night closed a most sanguinary struggle, in which the enemy were worsted and retreated under cover of darkness, leaving their wounded on the field. From the best information we can obtain, General Banks' command numbered at least 35,000, of which 28,000 were engaged at Pleasant Hill on the 9th. Our cavalry pursued to Natchitoches. General Taylor commanded on the field. The whole disposable infantry force of the department had been concentrated from Arkansas and Texas. Our whole force was under 16,000. We captured 21 pieces of artillery and over 3,000 prisoners; over 200 wagons. Our loss is severe—over 2,000 killed and wounded. General Mouton, Colonels Beard, Noble, Armant, Taylor, and Buchel among the casualties. Providence has given a signal and glorious victory. I shall immediately march to meet Steele, who is advancing with 12,000 from Little Rock.

Yours, respectfully,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 16, 1864.

SIR: I leave this morning with a portion of Major-General Taylor's command for Arkansas, for the purpose of endeavoring to meet Major-General Steele, commanding U. S. forces, now near Camden. In view of any contingency arising whereby the command of the Trans-Mississippi Department might devolve on another, I have issued an order appointing Major-General Taylor lieutenant-general. Of the three district commanders, Major-Generals Magruder, Price, and Taylor, the latter is the junior, and the only one of the three I consider suited to take charge of the affairs of the department. He is also, for his past services and eminent qualifications, justly entitled to the promotion. Should the contingency arise to which I have referred the good of the country and the cause demand that he should succeed to the command. These reasons have induced me to make the appointment, which I hope, under the circumstances, will meet with the approbation and sanction of Your Excellency.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, May 4, 1864.

The campaign in this department opened on March 12 by the landing of the Vicksburg column at Simsport. General Banks, supported by a formidable naval expedition, moved up the valley of Red River 35,000 strong. General Steele at the same time advanced from Little Rock with 12,000 effective men. Rapidly concentrating the infantry near Shreveport, while the cavalry of the District of Arkansas impeded and checked the march of Steele, our little army (15,000) was hurled upon Banks' column, defeating it in two signal victories on April 8 and 9 at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. While Taylor, pursuing his advantages, followed Banks' retreating and demoralized army, defeating him at Cloutierville, capturing and destroying gun-boats and transports, the divisions of Walker, Churchill, and Parsons were pushed rapidly against Steele's advancing column. Taken in detail, he was signally defeated at Poison Springs, near Camden, at Marks' Mills, and finally at Jenkins' Ferry, on the Saline. A freshet which overflowed the banks of the Saline for 2 miles alone saved Steele's army from destruction.

The fruits of this brilliant campaign, inaugurated at Mansfield on the day of national fast and humiliation, are, under Providence, most glorious and satisfactory. In Louisiana, 5,000 killed and wounded, 4,000 prisoners, 21 pieces of artillery, 200 wagons, 1 gun-boat (the Eastport), and 3 transports have already been reported. In Arkansas, 1,400 killed, 2,000 wounded, 1,500 prisoners, 13 pieces of artillery, and 900 wagons are the results of the campaign. Two brigades of Steele's command, with almost his entire transportation, have been destroyed or captured.

This grand expedition, for which with formidable numbers and boastful confidence the enemy has been for months preparing, has in less than fifty days been broken and hurled back in shame and disgrace by a force not much more than one-third their numerical strength. When the distances marched, the obstacles encountered, and the enemy's superiority in numbers are considered, this army deserves well of their country. Since the opening of the campaign the troops have marched from 400 to 500 miles, made forced marches of 40 miles on short rations, and fought three general engagements. Prisoners were taken from the Ninth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Nineteenth Army Corps. We have to regret the loss of Generals Mouton and Green in Louisiana and Generals Scurry and Randal in Arkansas. Our losses will not fall much short of 3,000 killed, wounded, and missing. The enemy's is full 14,000. I will shortly forward my report in detail.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, May 5, 1864.

SIR: I send my friend and assistant adjutant-general, Maj. Guy M. Bryan, to Richmond. He is the bearer of a dispatch announcing our successes at Poison Springs, Marks' Mills, and Jenkins' Ferry,

and giving the results of the recent campaign undertaken in this department. Major Bryan is an influential and leading citizen of his State, with her interests and those of the country at heart. He has more than once rendered me valuable assistance in matters requiring judgment and ability in the administration of the department. Major Bryan will bring certain subjects to Your Excellency's notice requiring prompt attention. I cannot too strongly urge the necessity for better sustaining my administration. A change in the command of those districts is demanded by the best interests of the country. General Price's name and popularity would be a strong element of success in an advance on Missouri, but as he is neither capable of organizing, disciplining, nor operating an army, he should not be left in command of the district of an army in the field. I am greatly in want of good subordinates and of a capable chief of staff, and with the responsibilities and multifarious duties devolving upon me and without proper support I almost despair of success. I shall, however, struggle on earnestly and conscientiously, begging Your Excellency to bear with me and to assist me, and trusting in that Providence who orders all things for our good.

I have the honor to be, respectfully and faithfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

His Excellency President Davis.

Headquarters Trans-Mississippi Department,
Shreveport, June 11, 1864.

Sir: The history of the late campaign in this department will be made and forwarded as soon as the reports of the district commanders in Arkansas and Louisiana have been received. I desire, however, for the information of Your Excellency, to anticipate this report by a statement of facts bearing generally upon the campaign. Soon after my arrival in this department I became convinced that the valley of Red River was the only practicable line of operations by which the enemy could penetrate the country. This fact was well understood and appreciated by their generals.

In the latter part of August I received information that a formidable expedition was preparing under the auspices of Generals Grant and Banks. The main advance would be up Red River Valley, with subordinate columns moving from Helena and Berwick Bay. The defeat of Rosecrans at Chickamauga frustrated this plan. General Grant, with the larger portion of his command, was drawn to Tennessee. The columns from Helena and Berwick Bay moved, with what success has already been reported to the Department.

Feeling assured that the Red River expedition, so suddenly interrupted, would be renewed at some future day, I addressed myself to the task of meeting it with the slender means at my disposal. Fortifications were directed on the lower Red River. Shreveport and Camden were fortified, and works were ordered on the Sabine and the crossings of upper Red River. Depots were established on the shortest lines of communication between the Red River Valley and the troops serving in Arkansas and Texas. Those commands were directed to be held ready to move with little delay, and every preparation was made in advance for accelerating a concentration, at all

times difficult, over long distances and through a country destitute of supplies and with limited means of transportation.

In February the enemy were preparing in New Orleans, Vicksburg, and Little Rock for offensive operations. Though 25,000 men were reported on the Texas coast, and though repeatedly urged to send troops to that district, my information convinced me that the valley of Red River would be the principal theater of operations, and that Shreveport would be the objective point of the columns moving from Arkansas and Louisiana. I continued steadily preparing for that event. On February 21, General Magruder was ordered to hold Green's division of cavalry in readiness to move at a moment's notice. (See No. 2047.*)

On March 5, he was telegraphed. (See No. 2191.) About that time the enemy commenced massing his forces at Berwick Bay. On March 12, General Magruder was telegraphed as follows. (See No. 2274.) On 15th, I received information of the enemy's landing at Simsport. On March 18, the infantry of General Price's command was by telegraph ordered to Shreveport.

The plan of campaign determined upon by me is indicated by the inclosed extracts from letters to Generals Price, Taylor, and Magruder. (See Nos. 2207, 2265, 2275, 2278, 2470, 2510, 2514, 2534, 2572, 2646, 2676.)

The enemy were operating with a force of full 50,000 effective men. With the utmost powers of concentration not 25,000 men could be brought to meet their movements. Shreveport was made the point of concentration. With its fortifications, covering the depots, arsenals, and shops at Jefferson, Marshall, and above, it was a strategic point of vital importance. All the infantry not with Taylor opposed to Banks was directed to Shreveport. General Price, with his cavalry command, was instructed to delay the march of Steele's column while the concentration was effected. Occupying a

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*The inclosures found with this report have been arranged in chronological order with other correspondence, &c., relating to operations in March, April, and May, 1864. These were as follows:

No. 1. 2047, Cunningham to Magruder, February 21; 2191, Smith to Magruder, March 5; 2207, Cunningham to Magruder, March 7; 2265, same to same, March 12; 2274, Boggs to Magruder, March 12; 2278, Smith to Price, March 14; 2490, Cunningham to Price, March 31; 2510, Smith to Taylor, April 1; 2514, same to same, March 31; 2534, same, April 3; 2572, same, April 5; 2595, same, April 8; 2646, same, April 12; 2676, Cunningham to Taylor, April 14, 2 p. m.; 2678, Cunningham to Price, April 14, 12 m.; 2687, same to same, April 15, 10 a. m.; M, Taylor to Boggs, March 11; N, same to same, March 23.

No. 2. Duplicate of letter of transmittal.

No. 3. Smith to Taylor, May 26.

No. 4. Smith to Taylor, June 5.

No. 5. List of soldiers and citizens (16 in all) employed in the bureaus of the Department. Omitted as unimportant.

No. 6. Haynes to Boggs, June 10.

No. 7. Extracts from special orders issued in 1863 and 1864, authorizing parties to raise cavalry forces. Omitted as unimportant.

No. 8. Smith to Taylor, April 22.

No. 9. Anderson to Fauntleroy, April 26.

No. 10. Pratt to Taylor, April 26.

No. 11. A schedule of the inclosures 1 to 15.

No. 12. Special order relieving Major-General Taylor from command, June 10.

No. 13. Smith to Davis, June 11, inclosing letters from Taylor of April 28, May 24, and June 5.

No. 14. Boggs to Taylor, January 12. Matters of detail omitted.

No. 15. Carr to Smith, June 10.

central position at Shreveport, with the enemy's columns approaching from opposite directions, I proposed drawing them to within striking distance, when, by concentrating upon and striking them in detail, both columns might be crippled or destroyed. (See extract from Taylor's letters, M and N.)

On April 4, Churchill's and Parsons' divisions were ordered to Keachie, within supporting distance of General Taylor, at Mansfield. On the morning of April 5, I repaired to General Taylor's headquarters at Mansfield, and on the afternoon of same day returned to Shreveport, from which point the operations of Generals Price and Taylor's commands could best be directed.

In my interview with General Taylor at Mansfield on April 5, my plan of operations was distinctly explained. He agreed with me and expressed his belief that General Steele, being the bolder and more active, would advance sooner and more rapidly than Banks, and was the column first to be attacked.

General Taylor having reported the advance of the enemy's cavalry to Pleasant Hill, on the morning of April 8, I wrote him the inclosed letter (numbered 2595). His headquarters was between four and five hours by courier from Shreveport. The action was unexpectedly brought on by Mouton engaging the enemy at 5 o'clock in the evening of April 8.

I received General Taylor's dispatch announcing the engagement at 4 o'clock on the morning of April 9, and rode 65 miles that day to Pleasant Hill, but did not reach there in time for the battle, which opened at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. On April 10, General Taylor returned with me to Mansfield, where the further operations of the campaign were discussed and determined upon by us. Banks was in full retreat, with the cavalry in pursuit. Our infantry was withdrawn by General Taylor to Mansfield for supplies. The country below Natchitoches had been completely desolated and stripped of supplies. The navigation of the river was obstructed, and even had our whole force been available for pursuit it could not have been subsisted below Natchitoches. General Steele was advancing, and to have pushed our whole force in pursuit of a fleeing enemy, while Steele's column was in position to march upon our base and destroy our depots and shops, would have been sacrificing the advantages of our central position and abandoning the plan of campaign at the very time we were in position to have insured its success.

General Taylor agreed with me that the main body of our infantry should be pushed against Steele, and requested that he might accompany the column moving to Arkansas. He selected the troops that were to remain, placed General Polignac in command, and gave him his instructions for pushing the retreating army of General Banks.

On the morning of April 11, I returned to Shreveport and made preparations for the prosecution of the campaign in Arkansas. On April 14, I received information that Steele had turned the head of his column and was moving toward Camden. General Price was instructed that the infantry were moving to his support. He was ordered to throw his force within the fortifications at Camden if he believed himself strong enough to hold them against General Steele. (See 2687.) If too weak he was directed to throw a division of cavalry across the Ouachita and intercept all communication with and cut off all supplies going into Camden. (See 2678.)

General Taylor arrived at Shreveport on the morning of April 16.

I informed him that the change of Steele's column and his march toward Camden had determined me in leaving him to conduct the operations on Red River, while in person I marched with the column moving to Arkansas; that should Steele retreat across the Ouachita the infantry column under my command would be turned at Minden and take the direct route to Campti, and thus be in time to operate against Banks' retreating column.

In the mean time orders were given to remove the obstructions in Red River and to float the pontoon bridge down to Campti. Banks was reported fortifying at Grand Ecore; Steele about occupying our fortifications at Camden. His dislodgment was an absolute necessity. He threatened any movement down Red River against Banks. He held a strong base from which he could either unite with Banks at Grand Ecore or by a short line of march occupy Shreveport and destroy our shops, depots, and supplies while the army was operating on Red River below.

The infantry passed through Shreveport on April 16. I moved in person to the neighborhood of General Price's headquarters. General Walker was halted at his camp, 19 miles from Minden, on April 20, 21, and 22. By reference to the map* you will see that this was the strategic point from which he could be thrown rapidly to Camden, Campti, or Shreveport. The fortifications at Camden were too strong to be taken by assault. A few days' delay in operations awaiting the arrival of the pontoon train was necessary. Minden, from its strategic position, was the point for detaining Walker during this delay.

On April 17, I made my headquarters near Calhoun, in telegraphic communication with Shreveport, and a few hours' distance from General Price by courier. He here submitted to me his proposed attack upon the enemy's train, which on April 18 resulted in the battle of Poison Springs, under General Maxey. On April 19, I found that General Price had not crossed any cavalry to the north side of the Arkansas River as directed, and that the day previous the enemy had received from Pine Bluff a commissary train of 200 wagons, guarded by an escort of 50 cavalry. I immediately organized an expedition of 4,000 picked cavalry, under General Fagan, who were ordered across the Ouachita, under instructions to destroy the supplies at Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Devall's Bluff, and then throw himself between the enemy and Little Rock. The destruction of these depots would have insured the loss of Steele's entire army. Neither man nor beast could be sustained in the exhausted country between the Ouachita and White Rivers. The destruction of the enemy's entire supply train and the capture of its escort at Marks' Mills by General Fagan precipitated General Steele's retreat from Camden. He evacuated the place on the morning of April 27. By a forced march of 42 miles we overtook him at Saline Bottom on the morning of April 30. Our troops marched through mud and rain during the previous night and attacked under great disadvantages—tired, exhausted, with mud and water up to their knees and waists. Marmaduke's brigade of cavalry, dismounted as skirmishers, opened the fight, and were hotly engaged through the morning. The battle closed at 1 o'clock, a complete victory; the enemy leaving his dead, wounded, wagons, &c., on the field. The rise of the river, which flooded the bottom for some miles, and the exhausted con-

*To appear in the Atlas.

dition of our men prevented pursuit. Marmaduke's brigade was the only cavalry with me.

On the evacuation of Camden, General Maxey, with his command, had been ordered back to the Indian country, where the movements of the enemy imperatively demanded his presence. Had General Fagan, with his command, thrown himself on the enemy's front on his march from Camden, Steele would have been brought to battle and his command utterly destroyed long before he reached the Saline. I do not mean to censure General Fagan. That gallant officer taking the road to Arkadelphia after the battle of Marks' Mills was one of those accidents which are liable to befall the best of officers. After the battle of Jenkins' Ferry the infantry divisions of Churchill, Parsons, and Walker were marched by the most direct route to Louisiana, with orders to report to General Taylor. The evacuation of Alexandria and the reoccupation of the lower Red River Valley closed the campaign.

I understand that efforts have been made in Richmond to have me relieved from command of the department. I know that facts will be misrepresented and distorted by certain parties in Louisiana who are waging a bitter war against me. I have made a plain statement in advance of my reports that Your Excellency might have the means of judging impartially of past events.

While I believe that my operations in the late campaign, founded on true military principles, have been productive of at least as great results as would have been achieved by a different course, I do not ask to be retained in command, but will gladly and cheerfully yield to a successor whenever it is deemed the interests of the service require a change.

Respectfully and faithfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States, Richmond, Va.

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SHREVEPORT, LA., *August* 28, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the general commanding the department has been sick for the last ten days with an attack of acute dysentery. Being very weak, he directs me to write you as follows:

I was very much surprised at receiving your telegram* informing me that no order was on file directing the infantry of my command to cross the Mississippi River. Your telegram implies that I should have followed the enemy's troops lately operating in this department, and that I was expected to so employ my forces as to prevent him at least from re-enforcing the armies of Grant and Sherman. I beg leave to submit the following résumé of events which have transpired since my arrival in this department, as also my plans for the last campaign, and the reasons why I was unable to detain longer the armies opposed to me:

After I reached the department, and before I could become fully acquainted with the character and position of the troops, the operations against Vicksburg and Port Hudson absorbed all my attention. Banks' first raid, in which he overpowered General Taylor at Camp

* Davis to Chipley, August 8, 1864.

Bisland, swept through the most productive portions of Louisiana and caused the loss of our works controlling the navigation of the Red River and Atchafalaya. This was subordinate to the investment of Port Hudson. I made the best disposition I could of my troops to aid in the relief of Vicksburg and Port Hudson. General Taylor, with Walker's division drawn from Arkansas, moved secretly up the Tensas in transports, and landing a few miles from where Grant crossed the Mississippi River, attempted a *coup de main* upon his communications. The enterprise succeeded, but did not produce the important results anticipated, Grant having previously acquired a base of supplies upon the Yazoo River. General Taylor now moved into the La Fourche country, where he operated successfully in interrupting the navigation of the Mississippi River between Port Hudson and New Orleans. His position became perilous after the fall of Port Hudson, and he recrossed Berwick Bay. General Holmes reported that it was practicable for him to take Helena, and permission was given him to attempt it. The position was unsuccessfully assailed on July 4. The enemy subsequently advanced, General Price abandoned Little Rock, and our forces fell back to Camden.

In the fall of 1863 the enemy made two attempts upon Texas. In the first, he landed at the mouth of the Sabine, where, by the gallantry of a single company occupying a small fort, he was beaten, two of his gun-boats captured, and his design frustrated. He then concentrated a column at Berwick Bay in the season of low water, intending to proceed along the coast, drawing his supplies from its numerous inlets. I met this by placing Magruder's small force at the Sabine, holding Taylor on his flank. The latter, by avoiding a general engagement, while he harassed and menaced his communications, caused him to retire, when by a brilliant rear-guard action General Green punished him severely. Banks then commenced his series of grand maneuvers upon the whole length of the coast of Texas. General Green's division was transferred to Galveston and the mouth of the Brazos to meet a powerful force landed on Matagorda Peninsula.

Throughout the winter General Magruder was occupied in foiling the designs of the enemy, who, numerically, was greatly his superior. This brings me to the point of time when the spring campaign opened, and I beg you to remark the position of the opposing forces. My lines extended from the Indian Territory, through Arkansas, to the Mississippi and down to the mouth of the Red River, thence by the Atchafalaya to Berwick Bay, and from thence by the coast to the Colorado. A small body of troops was engaged in observing the enemy at Brownsville. My forces were massed in three principal bodies, to wit, under Magruder, opposite Banks, on Matagorda Peninsula; under Price, confronting Steele; under Taylor, holding the lower Red River. The immense transportation of the enemy admitted of his taking the initiative with his entire force at any moment against any portion of my extended lines, while my limited transportation and the wide distances which separated my commands made it impossible to effect rapid concentration or assume the offensive. My only alternative was to wait the development of the enemy's plans, to retire before him until I effected my concentrations, and to endeavor to maneuver to throw the principal mass, if not my whole force, against one of his columns.

As I wrote you in the fall of 1863, I was satisfied that the line of Red River would be the line of his principal attack, because, as I then said, when the water rose so as to admit his powerful naval

armament in conjunction with the advance of his infantry column [*sic*]. In accordance with this view, I had established last fall subsistence and forage depots along the roads through the barren country between Texas and Red River and between Camden and Natchitoches. I omitted to state that I had been obliged to keep a force in the Indian Territory to hold in check several thousand men under Thayer at Fort Smith, and to cover Northern Texas, filled with disloyal people. The water in the beginning of February being in a stage to admit gun-boats into Red River, General Banks suddenly transferred his force to New Orleans and Berwick Bay, leaving but 6,000 or 8,000 men in Matagorda Peninsula, who subsequently joined him at Alexandria after the retreat from Mansfield.

Between February 21 and 26, I directed General Magruder to hold Green's division in constant marching order. On March 6, the division was ordered to move with dispatch to join General Taylor, who was embarrassed for want of cavalry.

On March 12, a body of 8,000 or 10,000 men, composed of portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, under General A. J. Smith, moved down from Vicksburg to Simsport, and subsequently advanced with such celerity on Fort De Russy, taking it in reverse, that General Taylor was not allowed time to concentrate and cover this most important work, our only means of arresting the progress of the gun-boats. The fall of the work and the immediate movement of the enemy by means of his transports to Alexandria placed General Taylor in a very embarrassing situation. He extricated himself, with his characteristic tact, by a march of 70 miles through the pine woods. Banks now pressed forward from Berwick Bay by the line of the Teche, and by the aid of steamers both on the Mississippi and Red Rivers concentrated at Alexandria a force of 30,000 men, supported by the most powerful naval armament ever employed on a river.

As soon as I had received intelligence of the debarkation of the enemy at Simsport, I ordered General Price to dispatch his entire infantry to Shreveport, and General Maxey to move toward Price, and when Steele advanced, to join Price with his whole command, Indians included. The cavalry east of the Ouachita was directed to fall back toward Natchitoches, and subsequently to oppose, as far as possible, the advance of the enemy's fleet. It was under command of General Liddell. All disposable infantry detachments in Texas were directed on Marshall; and although the enemy still had a force of several thousand on the coast, I reduced the number of men holding the defenses to an absolute minimum. General Magruder's field report shows that but 2,300 men were left in the entire District of Texas. Except these, every effective soldier in the department was put in front of Steele or in support of Taylor. When this was accomplished the disparity in numbers was frightful. Taylor had at Mansfield, after the junction of Green, 11,000 effectives, with 5,000 infantry from Price's army in one day's march of him at Keachie. Price, with 6,000 or 8,000 cavalry, was engaged in impeding the advance of Steele, whose column did not number less than 15,000 of all arms. Banks pushed on to Natchitoches. It was expected he would be detained there several days in accumulating supplies. Steele, on the Little Missouri, and Banks, at Natchitoches, were either but about 100 miles from Shreveport or Marshall. The character of the country did not admit of their forming a junction above Natchitoches, and if they advanced equally I hoped by refusing one to fight the

other with my whole force. It seemed probable at this time that Steele would come up first. When he reached Prairie D'Ane two routes were open to him—the one to Marshall crossing the river at Fulton, the other direct to Shreveport. I consequently held Price's infantry a few days at Shreveport, when Steele's hesitation and the reports of the advance of Banks' cavalry caused me to move it to Keachie, a point 20 miles in rear of Mansfield, on the road where it divides to go to Marshall and Shreveport. It was directed to report to General Taylor. I now visited and conferred with General Taylor. Neither believed that Banks could get advanced his infantry across the barren country stretching between Natchitoches and Mansfield.

I returned to Shreveport and wrote to General Taylor, instructing him to choose a position in which to fight, and move a reconnaissance in force and compel the enemy to display his infantry; to notify me as soon as he had done so, and I would join him in the front. I hoped to derive an element of morale from the arrival of Churchill's command and my own presence at the moment of action. The reconnaissance was converted into a decisive engagement with the advance corps of the enemy (a portion of the Thirteenth and his cavalry), and by the rare intrepidity of Mouton's division resulted in a complete victory over the forces engaged. General Taylor pushed forward his troops in pursuit, met, engaged, and repulsed the Nineteenth Corps, which was hastening to the support of the Thirteenth Corps. Price's infantry came up from Keachie that night. The next morning our whole army advanced and found the enemy in position at Pleasant Hill. Our troops attacked with vigor and at first with success, but by superiority of numbers were finally repulsed and thrown into confusion. The Missouri and Arkansas troops, with a brigade of Walker's division, were broken and scattered. The enemy recovered cannon which we had captured, and two of our pieces were left in his hands. To my great relief I found in the morning that the enemy had fallen back during the night. He continued his retreat to Grand Ecore, where he intrenched himself and remained until the return of his fleet and its passage over the bars, made especially difficult this season by the unusual fall of the river.

The question may be asked why the enemy was not pursued at once. I answer, because our troops were completely paralyzed by the repulse at Pleasant Hill, and the cavalry, worn by the long march from Texas, had been constantly engaged for three days, almost without food or forage. Before we could reorganize at Mansfield and get into condition to advance over the 55 miles of the wilderness which separated the armies, the enemy was re-enforced and intrenched at Grand Ecore. If we could not whip him at Pleasant Hill in a fair fight, it would have been madness to have attacked him at Grand Ecore in his intrenchments, supported by a formidable fleet of gun-boats. No sustained operations for dislodging him could be undertaken, because it was impossible to transport supplies for the entire army from Shreveport, distant 100 miles. The enemy held possession of the river until he evacuated Grand Ecore. A large steam-boat which had been sunk in the narrowest part of the channel for the purpose of obstructing the passage upward of this fleet had to be removed before the river could again be used.

Should I with the bulk of my forces pursue Banks until he left the Red River Valley, or should I march against Steele, who threatened

my depots and workshops, the loss of which would well-nigh have closed operations in this department? I determined upon the latter, and for the following reasons: I have stated that my original plan was, if possible, to mass my whole force against a single column of the enemy. This had been done successfully against Banks. Steele was still slowly advancing from the Little Missouri to the Prairie D'Ane. I deemed it imprudent to follow Banks below Grand Ecore and leave Steele so near Shreveport. Were I able to throw Banks across the Atchafalaya, the high water of that stream would arrest my further progress. If Red River continued to fall it seemed probable that Banks would be compelled to withdraw to Alexandria. It was hoped that the falls would detain him there until we could finish Steele, when the entire force of the department would be free to operate against him. I confidently hoped that if I could reach Steele with my infantry to beat him at a distance from his depot, in a poor country, and with my large cavalry force destroy his army. The prize would have been the Arkansas Valley and the fortifications of Little Rock, now too strong to be taken by either siege or assault with any force at my command. By the time my infantry reached Shreveport Steele had moved by his left flank to Camden. He held the fortifications we had constructed there. They were strong. I could not think of allowing Steele time to establish himself finally in Camden. I moved upon the place. The enemy abandoned it. I pursued, overtook, and beat him at the Saline. I failed to accomplish what I had reasonably hoped for, but succeeded in driving Steele from the valley of the Ouachita, with signal loss of men and material, and left myself free to move my entire force to the support of Taylor.

After the enemy left Grand Ecore General Taylor attacked his rear at Cloutierville, while a part of his force held his front in check at Monett's Ferry. General Taylor's force was too weak to warrant the hope that he could successfully impede the march of Banks' column. After the latter reached Alexandria Taylor transferred part of his command to the river below Alexandria, and with unparalleled audacity and great ability so operated on the enemy's gun-boats and transports as to compel him, with a force quadruple his own, to abandon that important position. A temporary rise in Red River enabled Admiral Porter to get his fleet over the falls. Had he delayed but one week longer our whole infantry would have been with Taylor.

Some idea may be formed of the character of our operations when it is stated that Walker's division, from the opening of the campaign at Simsport to the time of its arrival at Alexandria, a period of about two months, marched 700 miles and fought three pitched battles.

Information having been received that A. J. Smith's command was proceeding up the Mississippi River, I threw Marmaduke across from Camden to dispute its progress. He attacked the fleet, disabled or destroyed three of its boats, compelled it to halt and land its infantry, which he engaged for several hours.

Here ends the campaign in which, with a force of 25,000 men, all told, in the entire department, I drove back whence they came armies 60,000 strong, supported by an enormous fleet, inflicting immense loss in both men and material. It is not difficult to understand that at its close my forces required rest and reorganization.

Banks', or rather Canby's, army remained for some time at Morganza, a strongly fortified position, and occupied at this time by a large force. The Atchafalaya still affording sufficient water for the use of gun-boats, no operations could be undertaken across that stream. You say that I should have followed the movements of the enemy. This was simply impossible. The Nineteenth Army Corps was sent to New York or Washington. The portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, under A. J. Smith, were withdrawn to Memphis, delayed, as I have said, for a few days by Marmaduke, while the Thirteenth Corps was dissolved by order of Mr. Lincoln, thus leaving in Louisiana, so far as we could ascertain, the re-enlisted men of the Thirteenth Corps and the Corps d'Afrique. I should have mentioned that by a captured dispatch it was ascertained that the command of A. J. Smith received on April 5 orders to immediately join Sherman at Vicksburg. The operations of Taylor on Red River and Marmaduke on the Mississippi prevented Smith from executing this movement until the middle of June, or for a period of more than sixty days. I had not sufficient reason to believe that there remained a large force disposable for an attack on Mobile. How could I employ my command so as to attract a large force from either Sherman or Grant, or prevent a movement on Mobile? First, no demonstration could be made on New Orleans because of the Mississippi River. Any operations in the La Fourche country would necessarily be hazardous with the enemy at Morganza; would have been barren of military results; would have ravaged a country from which we should have been obliged to withdraw whenever the water rose. In the second place, if I had seized a point on the Mississippi River with a view of causing the enemy to send a large force to dislodge me the attempt would have failed unless I had guns sufficiently heavy to contend with iron-clads. Had I had these my entire army would have been committed to their defense, and the ultimate result would probably have been a repetition of the Vicksburg and Port Hudson affairs. There remained a third plan, viz, to push a large cavalry force into Missouri and support the movement by occupying my infantry in operations against Steele. Should he weaken himself to defend Saint Louis I might possibly take his works at Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Devall's Bluff, and recover the State of Arkansas. If he proved too strong for me I would be at hand to help Price extricate himself in case of failure or disaster. This plan I was putting in execution, and had it not been for the telegrams* of Generals Bragg and Lee, herewith inclosed, my infantry would have been now in the Arkansas Valley and Price would have been entering Missouri.

I have written thus at length in advance of my report, delayed by being unable to get the reports of my subordinate commanders, because I learn that my policy and plans have been much discussed at Richmond, and that it has been charged that but for my errors much more important results would have been achieved. In this connection I have only to remark that I have honestly done what appeared to me to be right and proper. I claim that my combinations have resulted in great successes, and beg to doubt whether more could have been accomplished under a different system of operations. Certain it is that my heart overflowed with thankfulness when I realized the fact that the valor and good conduct of the officers and

*See p. 548.

men of my command had enabled me to oppose and overcome the vast armies moving against me. I care not for the censure of those who allege that I have exhibited a want of capacity. You, Mr. President, have honored me with your confidence, of which I am proud. I beg if at any time I lose this that you will relieve me of the weighty responsibilities with which I am now intrusted. I will always gladly serve in any other field or position to which you may see fit to assign me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. A. SMITH,
Medical Director General Hospitals, Trans-Miss. Dept.

PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, Va.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of dispatch (No. 2171*) from department headquarters. I concur fully in opinion that General Holmes should not be weakened, both for the reason stated in the dispatch and because the enemy will certainly advance from Little Rock and Fort Smith unless some great disaster east should force him to withdraw troops from Arkansas. The brigade from General Holmes had best move down the Ouachita and report directly to General Liddell, who will be instructed to keep it as near as possible to the Arkansas line. This will enable me to draw toward the Red River or south of it the mounted force under Colonel Harrison. The views expressed in my communication of yesterday are again respectfully urged, viz, that every soldier in Southern and Western Texas, over and above the small garrisons necessary, is out of the spring campaign. I most respectfully urge these views on the attention of the lieutenant-general commanding. To insure promptness in the movement of troops from Texas and overcome the natural repugnance of the commander of that district to see his force reduced, General Magruder could be assigned to command here until the campaign is over. His experience and capacity would be eminently useful to the cause. Whatever assistance and support I can give will be cordially afforded. There has been nothing definite from the enemy since my letter of yesterday, but I am more and more disposed to think that Banks will be forced to move Mobileward. Should this occur I shall throw everything forward to the Mississippi, and push mounted men (if I can concentrate enough of this arm) into the La Fourche. A few feet more fall in the Mississippi will render this move safe and certain. Until I receive definite information, however, the present arrangements looking to an advance this way will be maintained.

I beg to inclose a copy of the last dispatch from General Polignac,† who has displayed energy and capacity in his late operations. The loss of the guns is very unfortunate. They were taken to Trinity by the engineer department and not by any instructions of General Polignac. Orders have been given to prefer charges against Captain Randle, whose inefficiency is complained of.

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*Of March 3. †Of March 4. See p. 157.

Captain Whittington, of Vincent's regiment, has recently by forced marches surprised a band of 19 jayhawkers on the Mermentou River. Twelve have been shot, and the remaining 7 are on trial before a commission. They will doubtless be executed. My orders are to shoot all jayhawkers taken in arms. A commission sits merely to verify the fact that the parties were so taken. So soon as Colonel Bush can organize the regiment lately authorized, the region west of Opelousas will be cleared out of these marauders.

I presume Major Douglas will soon be here in person to decide what changes in his plans the recent movement of the enemy up the Ouachita will necessitate.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report as follows: The boats recently in the Ouachita have returned to the Mississippi, and there are now twelve lying at the mouth. Eleven feet reported on the bar at the entrance, and river falling at the rate of 8 inches per day; same rate of fall in the Atchafalaya. Twenty transports laden with horses have passed down within a week.

On the 4th instant a brigade of cavalry was marching down the La Fourche toward Berwick Bay. Troops are still returning from Texas to the same point. Spies from the La Fourche represent all the enemy's infantry moving to the bay, but there is no report from Colonel Vincent for the last two days. If the enemy is concentrating anything more than cavalry at the bay he has changed his plans since Sherman's visit to New Orleans, and an advance of Banks' whole force by the Teche will indicate co-operation by Sherman from Vicksburg or Natchez. I am anxiously awaiting news from Vincent to verify the La Fourche report. It can hardly be supposed that Grant will permit any forces under his command to leave the principal theater of operations, yet common sense forbids the idea that Banks would move from the Teche as a base with his entire force without Sherman's co-operation. The possession of Monroe, Harrisonburg, Alexandria, and Washington is much desired by the Federals, as this would entirely cut off communication with the East, secure the navigation of the Mississippi from annoyance, and enable the pet scheme of colonization to be carried on. The next report from the Teche will decide the point as to the intentions of Banks. General Walker reports that ten days will complete De Russy. Captain Devoe, engineer in charge, desires the planters on the river to send down the drift as rapidly as possible. From present appearance at the raft he states that if drift is sent down at once in sufficient quantities a most formidable obstruction to the passage of boats will be insured. The planters in the vicinity of Shreveport can be most speedily notified from department headquarters.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report as follows: From Franklin to Berwick Bay the enemy has twelve regiments of infantry (mere skeletons), six regiments of cavalry (small and badly mounted), and twenty-four guns. A brigade of cavalry was on the march down the La Fourche for the bay. This on the 8th instant, and no appearance of a move. Should Banks move by the Teche and Red River we ought to beat him, and, I hope, will. Sherman has returned to Vicksburg. I shall not believe that he will send a man this side of the Mississippi until he is actually in motion. Should he, however, attempt a raid to assist Banks, he must move from Vicksburg to Monroe or from Natchez to this point. The former would not affect me here at all, and the latter would only force me to leave Alexandria temporarily, holding the Bayous Robert and Boeuf. I am arranging everything here to be moved in case of necessity, and General Liddell reports everything [ready] west of the Ouachita. There are thirteen boats at the mouth of Red River, including the six lately in the Ouachita. There are ten guns mounted at De Russy, and I feel some confidence that nothing can pass, even if the obstructions are removed. The non-arrival of the brigade from Arkansas will materially interfere with my plans for General Liddell's district, but I am satisfied that General Holmes should only be weakened in the last extremity. *The movement from Little Rock and Fort Smith will probably be serious, and it will be necessary to strengthen General Holmes. This can perhaps be done to some extent from here, if Green arrives promptly and Sherman does not worry me too much. Even without Green I should hope to give a good account of Banks if the rivers will keep down.* Two twenty-fours on siege carriages will be sent to General Liddell. With these and his light batteries he can interdict the navigation of the Ouachita. These guns possess the advantage of mobility, which more than compensates for their smaller caliber. Against iron-clads neither thirty-twos nor twenty-fours are of any use. Sharpshooters in our narrow streams are better than either. If the 30-pounder Parrott sent to Shreveport from Harrisonburg can be returned to General Liddell on a siege carriage the defense of the Ouachita will be more certain than by any fixed work we can arm. If the lieutenant-general commanding still desires to place guns in position on that stream two or three heavy guns should be furnished. Either 8-inch guns or 32-pounders (rifled) are required to arrest armored boats. At present Catahoula Shoals are impassable, which is the very best defense possible.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy are concentrating at the bay, so as to leave no doubt of their intention to move

*Portion between asterisks inclosed as M in Smith's report of June 11.

up the Teche very speedily. The force is about 12,000, including two brigades of cavalry, with forty pieces of artillery. It will be well to hurry up Green as rapidly as possible and send me as many of the detailed men at Shreveport as can be spared. If any news of Green's march is received I should be pleased to know it, so that I may form some estimate when he can reach me. Difficult as it is to credit, all my information points to the certainty that Sherman will co-operate with Banks to some extent. Should he attempt to push west of the Ouachita on the Monroe line, or north of it, General Holmes is in a good position to check him by threatening his communication with Vicksburg. General Liddell can do nothing to resist a column. He can only watch their movement. If I can complete De Russy, so as to get it off my hands, it will be a great relief.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the lieutenant-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of the 6th and 9th instant, and to say that General Green's command is being pushed forward largely re-enforced.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of the latest dispatches from General Walker, and my instructions to him, which will fully explain to you the position of affairs here. There is no late news from the Teche. Banks' army still at Franklin and between that point and the bay by last accounts, and preparing for an early move. Mouton's brigade is encamped at Lecompte, but has been ordered forward this morning to Yellow Bayou by the way of Evergreen. Polignac's brigade will reach here to-day, and will be moved in position to re-enforce General Walker if necessary. In view of the possible necessity for removing the Government property from this point I shall detain such steam-boats as are now here, which will cut off my supply of corn unless relieved from some other source, as my army is now subsisted entirely from the upper Red River Valley. I therefore respectfully ask that some of the largest boats able to navigate the river be ordered to load at once with corn and sent down to me.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION,
At Long Bridge, near Mansura, March 13, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR:

Scurry's and Hawes' brigades are at this place, Randal's 4 miles from here on the Bayou du Lac road. I have withdrawn everything from Marksville. My trains are near Bayou du Lac bridge. General Scurry informs me that the enemy's force, judging from the number of transports (twenty-seven), is about 18,000. They have perhaps a regiment or two of cavalry, and drove in General Scurry's pickets about an hour and a half ago beyond Moreauville. Their advance has not yet reached that point. The bridge across Bayou De Glaize has been destroyed; also at Yellow Bayou; and I am now having the Long Bridge torn up but not burned, as my object is to delay the enemy, and to destroy it wholly would not in the present low stage of the water delay them many hours. I feel most solicitous for the fate of Fort De Russy, as it must fall as soon almost as invested by the force now marching against it. It is very doubtful if the enemy have sent any number of troops up Red River, but there are several gun-boats trying to make their way up, and have passed the mouth of Black River. I shall endeavor to hold the enemy in check here, but it will be unsafe to linger here should Fort De Russy be reduced, which would enable the enemy to throw his whole force up Red River as high as Alexandria, and in that case we would be thrown back upon the desert toward the Sabine. I should be glad to have your views upon the situation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864—6 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has received your four communications of yesterday's date, one of them written at 5.30 p. m., inclosing dispatches, and another of them written at 7 p. m. If the force of the enemy landing at Simsport is such as to admit of your fighting him with the least hope of success, the sooner you attack him the better. He should be attacked, if possible, before his landing is completed. Should he be in such largely superior force, however, as to compel you to fall back, you will not fall back on the island toward Marksville, but by the De Glaize road in the direction of Evergreen. Mouton's brigade, commanded by Colonel Gray, is at Lecompte, and will be ordered this morning to form a junction with you by way of the Huffpower. General Polignac arrived here last night. His brigade will probably be here to-day. It will be ordered to your support as soon as possible. In falling back by the De Glaize road, should you be compelled to do so, you would be covering Fort De Russy to some extent, as it is not likely the enemy would march immediately in toward the fort, leaving you on his flank. Every hour that the enemy is held in check by your presence in his front or on his flank must be improved to get every-

thing in complete readiness at Fort De Russy. Mean time you can order to this place from there, and about your camp at Marksville, everything that should be sent off. It is possible that the force of the enemy that has appeared at Simsport may be part of Banks' command and not Sherman's. The major-general commanding will be with you as soon as he can get things in trim here. You will continue, however, to advise him frequently at these headquarters of the movements of the enemy and your own.

By command of Major-General Taylor:

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864.

General WALKER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: No news of an advance on the Teche. Gray's brigade will be ordered to Evergreen, where you can direct it to join you if you wish. Polignac's brigade will be here to-night. It will be pushed on to join Gray or sent down by boat to unite with you via Marksville, as you may advise me to-day or the news from below may indicate. Close, sharp, quick fighting is our game where there is any reasonable chance of success. The enemy have not transportation enough to move more than 6,000 men at a time, and 4,000 of your men can whip any such force. Any severe check to the head of their column would probably break up this expedition. The work on the fort can be prosecuted to the last moment and the negroes, &c., brought off by boat. Scurry's pickets east of the Atchafalaya have doubtless been notified and can make their way over by crossing below. We must risk a great deal to prevent the loss of our material at De Russy. I doubt if the enemy under any circumstances will take time to invest the place. If the garrison can resist a *coup* it will prevent the passage of the river by boats. Make the best arrangements you can in accordance with these views. I must remain here until further developments and prepare for any contingency. Should it appear that the force at Simsport comes from below the number will not exceed 5,000, if so many. I repeat, the loss of our material at De Russy and the occupation of Alexandria by the Federals would be a great disaster, and, therefore, we must take more than ordinary hazards in fighting.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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[No. 2275.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose you copy of a telegram sent General Magruder yesterday. I doubt whether this will strengthen Green's division by more than three regiments. Brown's and Debray's regiments are

specified by name in a previous telegram, and are ordered to report to General Green. They each number 500 or 600 effective men, and probably the two best cavalry regiments in the District of Texas. By the disbandment of the State forces General Magruder's command in the Eastern Sub-District has been reduced to something under 6,000 effective men. The re-enforcements that may be expected from Texas will not be large. My information from Arkansas is that the enemy are evacuating Fort Smith, concentrating at Little Rock, and preparing for a speedy advance. Orders have been issued for our little force in the Indian Territory to concentrate near Laynesport, where they will be in supporting distance of the Arkansas comn and when the enemy develops his movements. I have just had an interview with Mr. Martin Gordon. If his estimates are right such an overwhelming force will be thrown in the department that we may expect being forced back into the interior till our columns come within supporting distance. Your attention is called to the establishing of a depot of supplies at Natchitoches. I still think that the enemy cannot be so infatuated as to occupy a large force in this department when every man should be employed east of the river, where the result of the campaign this summer must be decisive of our future for weal or woe. If I am right in my premises the only field for great results in this department is the District of Arkansas, and a concentration must be made there this summer for the recovery of the Arkansas Valley. General Price has relieved General Holmes in the District of Arkansas.

By a gentleman just from Vicksburg, and whose statement is entitled to great credit, I learn that Sherman's corps had arrived at Vicksburg and gone up the Mississippi in transports. The people about Vicksburg state that their destination is Little Rock, whither Sherman goes to re-enforce Steele.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General.

[Inclosure. No. 2274.]

Shreveport, La., *March* 12, 1864.

Major-General Magruder,
Houston, Tex.:

Lieutenant-General Smith directs that you order immediately all the force at your command in the Eastern Sub-District of Texas to Louisiana, reducing the garrisons to the minimum. The cavalry will be pushed [forward] to report to General Taylor, at Alexandria, the infantry ordered to Shreveport. It is left optional with you to accompany the command. These orders must be carried out without delay. Urge the Governor to put his State troops in the field immediately. The column moving on Alexandria must keep General Taylor notified of its movements by means of couriers; the infantry marching to Shreveport the same to department headquarters, by the telegraph and courier lines already established. Push forward all the powder disposable to this point. Teams must be impressed if necessary. Heavy columns of the enemy are about moving from Little Rock, the Mississippi River, and Brashear City.

W. R. BOGGS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: Your communication of the 12th instant has been received at department headquarters. A copy of it has been sent to General Price, who had previously been written to of the supposed plans of the enemy. General Price's force is less than 5,000 infantry, with about the same amount of cavalry. This includes his State troops. After a careful consideration of the objects of the enemy's operations the lieutenant-general commanding feels convinced that, in addition to the occupation of Monroe, Harrisonburg, Alexandria, and Washington, which would give them undisturbed navigation of the Mississippi, the securing of cotton is with them a great object. From the best information he can get he supposes there are about 150,000 bales of cotton in Louisiana. He therefore directs that so soon as you feel satisfied that the enemy will move in force you have all the cotton east of the Ouachita, and also all south of Alexandria, burned, with the exception of such as has been exempted in orders, of which you have copies, and also such as you may deem indispensably necessary for the subsistence of the loyal people living in those sections. He thinks it will be but just and humane to do this, leaving a small amount—say from 5 to 20 bales, as circumstances may require—to support such families as may have no other resources upon which to live, and who have to remain within the enemy's lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Lecompte, March 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My previous communications, inclosing copies of dispatches received by me from Major-General Walker, have given you all the information relative to the movements of the enemy which was in my possession prior to this afternoon, when I met General Walker. The only feasible time and place for attacking the enemy was while his land force was marching from Simsport along the Bayou De Glaize, removed from the support of his gun-boats and the force which was sent on transports up Red River. As the country was somewhat favorable I had directed General Walker to delay the enemy until I could take down Mouton's division, but the greatly superior strength of the enemy prevented him from attacking or even attempting to delay him in his rapid advance, and thus further operations in that section became impracticable. Several gun-boats reached Alexandria at about 4.30 p. m. to-day. All the stores and Government property have been removed, principally on steamers, and the trains are now en route to Natchitoches. The necessity for taking the troops to some point on or near the river where forage and subsistence can be had, and where the river can be used for its transportation and for transporting other troops which may be sent as re-enforcements, renders Natchitoches the available and desirable point for these purposes. The forces of the enemy which advanced

from Simsport are of the command of General Sherman. As soon as I had information of the return of Sherman from Meridian to Vicksburg and his visit to New Orleans I instructed General Polignac to proceed to Alexandria from the Ouachita River, but as two of his regiments had been sent from Harrisonburg to Trinity some delay necessarily arose, and the brigade reached Alexandria last night and came to this point this morning. I have just received a dispatch* from Colonel Vincent, a copy of which is herewith forwarded, by which it will be seen that the enemy is advancing from the Teche. I have ordered Colonel Vincent to fall back by the Opelousas and Natchitoches road to the latter place. Fort De Russy was captured yesterday evening, but I have no details relative to the affair. Major Douglas, chief of engineers on the staff of the lieutenant-general commanding, left the fort a few hours before its investment and reported to me the result of his observations and labors at that place, and has doubtless communicated to you the same.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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Headquarters Trans-Mississippi Department,
Shreveport, La., March 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. Taylor,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

General: By direction of the lieutenant-general commanding I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of the 13th and 14th instant, inclosing communications from Major-General Walker in relation to the enemy's movements, and giving information of the disposition of your command. I inclose dispatch received last night from General Magruder:

Three regiments of Green's brigade have left Hempstead—one on the 13th, one on the 14th, one to-day. Major's brigade and remainder of Green's will move from Hempstead by to-morrow. Two regiments of Major's brigade now at Galveston will be at Hempstead day after to-morrow. Debray's regiment (seven companies) moves to-morrow via Liberty. Terrell's will move on Friday via Navasota. All the troops being hurried forward fast as possible.

J. E. SLAUGHTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

The commanding general directs me to say that this delay is unaccountable and the route taken most unaccountable. Everything will be done to push this command forward and General Magruder called upon for an explanation for not obeying the orders sent him promptly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

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Headquarters Trans-Mississippi Department,
Shreveport, March 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. Taylor, *Commanding, &c.:*

General: I have the honor to inclose you a dispatch† just received from General Price, from which I infer that you have to deal

*Of March 14. See Part II, p. 1040. †Not found.

with Banks alone, and that Sherman's force, having failed in their movement against Mobile, have gone to re-enforce the army in Tennessee. I have ordered the whole infantry force of General Price's command to this point, amounting to some 4,000 or 5,000. They should be here the 27th instant. Will you be able to hold a point of the river as high as Natchitoches? If so, advise me by return courier, and send all the boats up and I will send down the troops to Natchitoches. With these and the four brigades of cavalry from Texas we must dispose of Banks.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I had the honor on the 15th instant of addressing you on the subject of the fall of Fort De Russy and the consequent occupation of Alexandria by the enemy. I have directed Major-General Walker to forward me a full report of his movements from the time of the enemy's landing at Simsport to the date at which I joined him on the Bayou Boeuf, embracing all the particulars he can furnish relative to the loss of the fort. A copy of this will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

In view of the presence of the enemy at Alexandria and the advance of Banks' forces from below, coupled with my inability for the want of cavalry to learn what disposition was being made of the Alexandria forces, I deemed it prudent to march my army to a point from which I could always have my line of retreat open to Natchitoches or advance upon Alexandria, as circumstances might require. I am now encamped on the old Opelousas and Fort Jesup military road, at a point (Carroll Jones') 46 miles from Natchitoches and 12 from Cotile, where I shall remain until further developments. Having so little cavalry my information in regard to the enemy is very scant. He has a considerable force of infantry at Alexandria, ten gun-boats and over twenty transports. No boat has as yet passed over the falls. One light-draught gun-boat made the effort, but failed. The river has been falling for several days. Colonel Vincent arrived with his regiment last night. I have ordered him to-day to scout down as near Alexandria as possible on the Bayou Rapides road, and hope to have definite information from him to-night. I am to-day drawing supplies of corn and corn-meal from the country around Alexandria, on the Bayou Rapides, and Cotile. Thus far the enemy has sent no force outside of town. He waits, I presume, for a junction with Banks' troops before he develops his plans. The cavalry force moving up from below is reported to be large, accompanied by a very large train. I have sent my trains and the heads of the various departments to Natchitoches, and directed the official business of the district to go on as usual. Captain Gray, of the courier-line, was to have remained at Cotile after the occupation of Alexandria, but mistaking his orders has gone farther back. The communication with department headquarters will be re-established and complete, however, in a day or two. Notwithstanding the rapidity

with which the enemy advanced, landing at Simsport on the evening of the 12th, capturing Fort De Russy on the 14th, and being at Alexandria with their gun-boats on the 15th, all Government property of every description was saved. All planters who desired to move have likewise saved everything. I am of opinion that Banks' infantry, if sent up, will be transported by the river. Should they march, however, by the Bayou Boeuf road I will, if there is a chance of success, attack them and prevent the junction.

MARCH 19.

The above has been held over for the purpose of giving the latest intelligence. Having heretofore been completely in the dark throughout all this movement, owing to its extreme and unexpected rapidity, I have at length succeeded in organizing a system of information. At the time I joined General Walker he was unable to give me any of a definite character. Colonel Vincent is now in position on the roads leading from Alexandria, and his report corroborates the statements of a prisoner brought in last night, which are to this effect: The enemy's force consists of one division, as follows: Three brigades of the Sixteenth Army Corps and one brigade of the Seventeenth Corps, the whole under the command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, and numbering at the most 10,000 men. This force marched from Simsport on Monday, the 14th, reached the Marksville Prairie road, diverging to Fort De Russy on the same evening, and sent out two regiments, which assaulted and carried the fort after an hour's fighting. Three brigades were then sent up to Alexandria on transports and one remained at the fort. There are only a few mounted marines; no cavalry. My scouts were opposite Alexandria last evening. There were several gun-boats and a number of transports; too dark to distinguish how many. Eight feet water is reported to be on the falls and the river rising slowly. No boats have as yet attempted to pass. The advance of the enemy's cavalry force from below reached Ville Platte on the evening of the 17th. I expect full reports of the composition of this force to-day. Captain Stewart's company, steamboat men, has been ordered to report to you without delay, as per instructions from your headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 19, 1864—12 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Shreveport:

GENERAL: Your dispatches of the 18th instant have just been received. I regret that, having no key, I have been unable to decipher the dispatches of General Magruder. My present position is at McNutt's Hill, about 15 miles above Alexandria, on the Bayou Rapides road, and I consider 10,000 an overestimate of the enemy's force in Alexandria. It is probably about 7,000. I am greatly in need of cavalry, having nothing of that arm except the Second Louisiana, which is jaded by constant service and long marches. With the re-enforcements of which you advise me in your communication of the 18th instant I shall cheerfully undertake to dispose of Banks'

and any other force which may be sent against me. In reply to your query, whether I shall be able to hold Natchitoches, I have to state that I shall hold all I can. The force from below has not yet reached Alexandria. The force in that town is a portion of the Sixteenth Army Corps, and perhaps a small portion of the Seventeenth. From the fact that General Sherman has moved the force he had at Vicksburg up the river, I am inclined to believe that the troops in front of me have been transferred to General Banks to supply the drafts on him for garrisons in Texas. I have information upon which I rely that his force, originally destined for a campaign into this valley, did not exceed 13,000 men. It is a large estimate, therefore, to put his whole force, after a junction of the two columns, down at 23,000. If operations in Georgia should cause the withdrawal of General Polk's forces from the Mississippi Valley, Banks' force might be increased somewhat by weakening his garrisons on the east bank of that stream. I have sent two guns to Major Douglas and have requested him to place them in position at the junction of Cane River and the Bon Dieu, near Grand Ecore. I examined the position myself last year and deem it favorable for preventing the passage of the enemy's transports up the river. The guns referred to will be manned by the artillerists who made their escape from the water batteries at Fort De Russy.

My inability to decipher General Magruder's dispatches is the more annoying as I am particularly desirous of knowing the movements of General Green.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, March 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have directed an officer of the Missouri, with thirty torpedoes and a crew of men selected for the purpose, to proceed down the river and obstruct it with torpedoes at some point below Grand Ecore. I will direct the officer to report to you should he find you below, otherwise to report to Captain McCloskey, who is at Grand Ecore, upon consultation with whom he will fix a point at which the torpedoes are to be placed. If practicable I would suggest their being used below Cotile, otherwise the vicinity of the falls below Grand Ecore might be selected. As soon as the torpedoes are placed in position the boat and crew will return to Shreveport. Arrangements should be made by pickets and couriers so that the party on the boat can be notified in time of the passage over the falls of the enemy's gun-boats or the advance of a party of the enemy. I send down by the boat a signal corps under Sergeant Landry, who will assist in notifying the officer in charge of the torpedo-boat of the movements of the enemy. When they get through with this duty they are ordered to report to you.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS, *Chief of Staff, Shreveport:*

GENERAL: I am informed that Banks' cavalry by land and his infantry by the river have reached Alexandria. The cavalry I estimate to be from 3,000 to 5,000. It is to be presumed, therefore, that an advance up the Red River Valley may be immediately anticipated, and the preponderance of cavalry on the part of the enemy will enable him to mask the dispositions of his infantry to a great degree. Should any of his transports pass above the falls it may be necessary for me to march directly to Shreveport to secure a junction with General Price's forces. I am still without a key to General Magruder's cipher, and consequently cannot decide upon movements with a view to a junction with General Green. The force from Vicksburg at Alexandria is under the command of Major-General Mower, and was, I am sure, overestimated by our forces on the Bayou De Glaize. I doubt if it exceeds 6,000; and the primitive cause of our disasters was the inability of our troops to compel the enemy to develop his strength before uncovering the road to Fort De Russy. The forces of General Banks (who personally arrived at Alexandria last night) materially increased the enemy's strength. Officers of the enemy publicly announce in Alexandria that it is their intention to march directly on Shreveport, and thence, having formed a junction with General Steele, to Marshall and Tyler, Tex., for the purpose of destroying depots and stores. I would suggest, therefore, that the approaches to Shreveport be guarded, unless you are apprised that General Green can join me at some point farther down the river. Natchitoches is an unfavorable position, and cannot, I think, be held by me against the combined forces of the enemy without re-enforcements. My fighting men are about LLZLR [7,000]. The total want of cavalry deprived General Walker of all adequate means of information of the enemy's force on the Bayou De Glaize. The three companies he had beyond the Atchafalaya were, of course, cut off by the enemy's sudden debarkation at Simsport, and did not rejoin him until after he had reached Bayou Boeuf. Captain Cassidy, commanding one of the companies of steam-boat men, and posted opposite Alexandria, reports 8 feet of water on the falls and the river rising.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I am directed by the lieutenant-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of the 18th and 19th instant, giving information of your own and the enemy's movements. Price's division left its camp 95 miles from this point on the 20th. General Price reports the enemy preparing to advance from Pine Bluff. The lieutenant-general commanding thinks if they do so it will be by way of Monticello, Bastrop, and Monroe, so as to cooperate with any force which might operate from the lower Oua-

chita, and to traverse a country which can furnish supplies. Suggestions have been sent Capt. A. H. May, assistant adjutant-general, to bring up to Natchitoches a siege gun which was at Plaisance. The lieutenant-general commanding has been informed that three field guns were left on the bank of the river at the upper falls, near Alexandria, and fell into the enemy's hands. He directs that you ascertain whether this is true, and, if so, call upon the ordnance officer at Alexandria for the reason why these guns were not removed, as they are reported to have been near the water's edge and could easily have been taken on board one of the several boats which left on the approach of the enemy. The Richmond key-word (in department cipher) is: Hbv Kis'omaq bvoqye [Our destiny is one]. The lieutenant-general commanding directs that if there are any siege or sea-coast guns below which are not to be mounted immediately they be sent to Shreveport.

Very respectfully,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Carroll Jones', March 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my little cavalry force, consisting only of one regiment (the Second Louisiana Cavalry), met with a very serious disaster last night. About 9 o'clock its position near Cotile was surrounded, the regiment surprised, and a greater portion of it captured. Colonel Vincent made his escape, but I fear the other field officers were captured. Prisoners brought in this morning report that the enemy's cavalry in very large force forded the bayou to the right of Colonel Vincent's position during the afternoon at a point and advanced by a road unknown to my best scouts. I am satisfied that they were guided by jayhawkers. This disaster leaves me with little or no means of obtaining information in front of a very large force of the enemy's cavalry. I am therefore compelled to fall back behind the Kisatchie and wait until I can effect a junction with General Green, to whom I have sent a courier via the Burr's Ferry road to hasten his movements and notify him of my whereabouts. When communications ceased to arrive from Colonel Vincent last night, suspecting some unusual occurrence, I sent down a staff officer (Captain Elgee), of whom I have not since heard, and much fear he was captured. This regiment was only a few miles in advance of the infantry, and every precaution that suggested itself to my mind had been taken. No blame whatever can attach to the officers and men of this regiment, for I never saw a better. A battery of four guns was captured with the regiment. In order to obtain information from the river I considered the position occupied by Colonel Vincent as of the last importance, and warranted me in incurring more than ordinary risk. To obtain information of the enemy's moving on the river I have now to depend on arrangements previously made at Natchitoches. From that point Captain May, acting assistant adjutant-general, will report what occurs on the river to department headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 22, 1864—3 p. m.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Shreveport:

COLONEL: I have the honor to hand herewith inclosed copy of a communication of Maj. E. Surget, assistant adjutant-general, to me, dated 21st instant, 9 p. m., which is forwarded for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding. The instructions with regard to picketing the country below contained in said communication have already been given to Col. Louis Bush, commanding Fourth [Seventh] Louisiana Regiment Cavalry. The major-general commanding having directed that the 30-pounder Parrott and 24-pounder should not be planted at the mouth of Cane River below Grand Ecore, I had them placed early yesterday morning on the steamer Beauregard (the most available boat), to be sent to Shreveport. The lieutenant-general commanding's letter (or, rather, Lieutenant Cunningham's letter, No. 2354) to the major-general commanding reached here an hour ago, directing that any siege guns below not to be mounted immediately should be sent to Shreveport. The Anna Perret (a boat that I sent up the river for wood) should have been at Grand Ecore this morning. I have directed Major Robertson, in charge of the Beauregard, that if the Anna Perret is at the landing at Grand Ecore, and the two guns can be transferred to her in an hour or so, so that the Anna Perret can go on to Shreveport this evening, that they must be transferred to her. If the Anna Perret is not at the landing Major Robertson is directed to proceed at once with the Beauregard to Shreveport to deliver the guns. As the Beauregard has ammunition on board, I had previously ordered her up to Blair's, a point on Red River opposite Pleasant Hill, to wait for orders, unless advised of the approach of the enemy, in which event she was to leave for Shreveport without orders. The Pauline, with commissary stores, the Beauregard, and Texas were the only boats at Grand Ecore early this morning. The Texas arrived about 2 o'clock this morning with Captain Jones, of the signal corps, and Captain McCloskey on board, and would have been off down the river by sunrise, perhaps, but for some derangement to her machinery, which I understand delayed her at Grand Ecore. She had not left at 11 o'clock this morning, but was expected to get off during the day. Before getting on the Texas Captain McCloskey started the falls artillery up to the Cut-off. By last courier from department headquarters I send Major Douglas' communication of 20th instant (8 p. m.), advising the 32-pounder gun at Plaisance be sent for at once. In view of the force of the enemy's cavalry and artillery in front of James' Store, referred to in Major Surget's communication of 21st instant, and Captain Jones' intended operations on the river below Grand Ecore, and from the further fact that there is no available boat at Grand Ecore, unless it be the Texas, I have referred Major Douglas' letter with regard to the gun to Captain McCloskey, and left it with him to send for the gun if in his discretion it is practicable to do so. He will do all he can. I have advised Captain McCloskey of the position of affairs about James' Store—at least, I sent Major Douglas' letter to Grand Ecore for him as soon as I read it, and had but a few moments before sent to him the substance of Major Surget's communication of 21st instant, so far as it referred to him and the movements of the enemy. My impression is that my

messenger reached Grand Ecore before he left. The instructions of the major-general commanding with regard to General Liddell's movements as contained in Major Surget's letter of 21st will be forwarded to him at once. Captain Stewart's company of cavalry passed here at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Shreveport by way of Grand Ecore. There was no boat here on which the company could be sent to Shreveport.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—A courier has just arrived from the Saint Maurice line, reporting that there is a gun-boat 15 miles below Grand Ecore coming up.

LATER—8.20 p. m.

Having doubts as to the correctness of the information given by the courier from the Saint Maurice line as stated above, and preferring not to trouble you with unreliable news, I immediately sent the courier back to Grand Ecore to wait there and let me know if the gun-boat came up. I also dispatched pickets to Gurney's, 8 miles below Grand Ecore, by water, to gain such information as could be obtained. The courier who brought the news in the first place has returned with the intelligence that the report of a gun-boat coming up was false. I am satisfied the pickets in the direction of Saint Maurice were mistaken in the first report. In the interim, while delaying the courier for Shreveport, a courier arrived from the major-general commanding with a communication for Brigadier-General Boggs, which goes with this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY.

I have sent a reliable officer now to the lower end of the Saint Maurice line of couriers to take charge of the pickets and send no uncertain news. The Texas has gone below Grand Ecore.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Carroll Jones', March 21, 1864—9 p. m.

[Capt. A. H. MAY:]

CAPTAIN: The major-general commanding directs that you will keep up a perfect system of communication as low down as Monett's Ferry, to give you advice at Natchitoches of any movement of the enemy up the country. There must be a picket also at the junction of Cane River and Red River below Monett's Ferry to report the passage of boats. This must be organized independent of these headquarters, as with the rising river and an advance of the enemy by the river road and boats at the same time we on the pine-woods road could learn nothing of their movements. This line, however, must be made strong enough to communicate any information obtained across to these headquarters on the Kisatchie road as well to Natchitoches. Every movement of the enemy must be communicated promptly. Assign to this duty the most reliable and intelligent officer you can get not engaged in more important service. If you can get no other or

better men for this duty call on Colonel Bush to furnish them, and Lieutenant-Colonel Bringier would, perhaps, be the best officer to put in charge. Attend to this immediately. The picketing on the river below Natchitoches by Colonel Bush's regiment will, of course, go on as previously directed. Inform Captain McCloskey that it is useless now to think of placing the torpedoes below Cotile, or even as low down as that point. He must select the most favorable locality his judgment suggests. Let him have everything prepared for obstructing the river by sinking the Falls City, but sink her as low down the river as possible to form a barrier to the passage of boats. Your line of pickets on Cane River will communicate with these headquarters by lateral roads leading from Walmsley's and other points. Write General Liddell to this effect. If he learns of a movement of the enemy up Red River he will leave a small body of troops to operate on Red River above the mouth of Black, to annoy the enemy's boats as much as possible, and throw the bulk of his force in the direction of Campti, or higher up still, as circumstances and the movements of the enemy may render necessary, in order to be within striking distance of these headquarters. As it may not be possible for the major-general commanding to communicate with the line of pickets and scouts on Cane River, the commanding officer must act on his own judgment, always advising these headquarters, however, whenever he makes a change. Keep everything in readiness to start up the river at a moment's notice, if necessary.

Our cavalry (the Second Louisiana) yesterday had some skirmishing with a superior force of the enemy, but drove him back. To-day their advance was of a more serious character, coming up with a large cavalry force, infantry, and artillery. He was checked, however, and our outposts remain the same at James' Store, the enemy being immediately in front. In the event of a positive advance of the enemy it will not be possible to hold this position, as with his vast superiority in mounted force (some 5,000 or 6,000) he can harass us at every point. We have as yet but Colonel Vincent's regiment, which is in a jaded and worn-out condition. The major-general commanding has heard nothing from General Green up to this time. If the intelligence from the front indicates an advance of the enemy in full force to-morrow, as Banks' entire command probably reached Alexandria to-day, we will fall back by the Fort Jesup road as being the most direct practicable route to Shreveport. Communicate the contents of this letter to department headquarters, that the lieutenant-general may be advised of the situation here.

Very respectfully,

E. SURGET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 23, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to hand with this a communication of this date from the major-general commanding to Brig. Gen. W. R. Boggs. Nothing new to report with regard to the enemy's movements below. A lieutenant of the Second Louisiana Cavalry (Lieu-

tenant Ezell), who made his escape on the night of 21st instant when the regiment was surrounded, brought off a Yankee prisoner with him, who stated that three small gun-boats had got above the falls, but did not give the date when they passed above the falls. I give the information for what it is worth; do not think it amounts to much. I have reliable officers about Monett's Ferry to give information promptly of any important movements of the enemy. A force has been sent down to picket the country between Monett's Ferry and Cotile, and Red River and Cane River on both sides from the mouth of Cane River up. All quiet yesterday along General Liddell's lines. His headquarters at Columbia, and communication with him by courier-line perfect. Captains McCloskey and Jones went up on the Texas this morning at 4 o'clock, leaving Acting Master Larmour, of the Missouri, with 10 men and the detachment of the signal corps at Grand Ecore. Six torpedoes were placed in the river to-day, 3 miles below the ferry at Grand Ecore. It was thought impracticable to send a boat for the 32-pounder gun at Plaisance, in view of the enemy's presence about Cotile. Indeed, there was no boat available to send after Major Douglas' communication to me with regard to it was sent, and as it turns out now the major-general commanding had already sent to Plaisance and had the gun buried.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Beasley's, Kisatchie River, March 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of dispatches from department headquarters of the 21st instant. I am now encamped between the two branches of the Kisatchie River, 28 miles from Natchitoches, 12 miles from Cane River by a road which crosses it above Cloutierville, and 4 miles from the junction of the Fort Jesup and Mount Pleasant road. Without cavalry this is the most favorable position for my infantry to await the arrival of General Green, to whom I have sent couriers both by the Burr's Ferry and Sabinetown roads, and through them expect to get some information by to-night. From General Green I have heard nothing up to this time. I have directed him to march by the Many and Fort Jesup road to join me. My want of cavalry is lamentable, and my only means of gaining information is by flying scouts on the enemy's flanks, whose reports come in but slowly, as they cannot come to me by the direct roads. *[As soon as Green joins me I shall assume the offensive, and hope to be able to do so without the assistance of General Price, as I do not doubt the intention of the enemy to move forward from Arkansas.] My forage and subsistence must be drawn from the valleys of Cane and Old Rivers, from which latter I am 7 miles distant. With the assistance of batteries posted on the hills this side of Cane River I may be able to check any movement of the enemy by that road. I have no reports of a reliable

*Portion between brackets inclosed as N in Smith's report of June 11, 1864.

character from Red River, and am unable to say what the enemy are doing in that direction. It was for the purpose of keeping open my communications with the river that I was so desirous of holding the hill at James' Store, and was willing to run even considerable risk in doing so, although I did not deem it prudent to throw forward my infantry, which, with my greatly inferior force of cavalry, might have involved me in an engagement for which I was not prepared. The disaster to the Second Louisiana Cavalry, as already reported, although very great in our present weak-handed condition, was not as bad as at first reported, as many were able to escape under cover of the darkness. The night was very dark and stormy, the rain and hail falling in torrents. Through the treachery of citizens the enemy were enabled to surround the pickets and thus throw themselves into the midst of Colonel Vincent's camp before he was aware of their presence. The result of my investigations on this matter is that no blame can attach to this officer. My want for artillery horses is very great. I want at least 100, and respectfully ask that some intelligent officer be sent through the country between Shreveport and Natchitoches to make impressments. Many families are leaving for Texas, from whom animals could be obtained, as they are no longer needed for purposes of cultivation. The three field pieces alluded to in your letter (2354) were left on the river bank above Alexandria; learning which, on the second day after the enemy's arrival, Major Brent went down for the purpose of removing or destroying them, but found they had been removed by the enemy. The ordnance officer at Alexandria has been required to report on this matter. Apparently it was through his negligence that this unnecessary loss occurred. As already advised, two siege guns have been shipped to you from Natchitoches. The 32-pounder which was at Plaisance, and which Major Douglas agreed to remove if he could find the means, I had buried, as it was not possible to get it away with the means at my command, the boats having all gone above, and the transportation by land being too slow to escape the enemy's cavalry. General Liddell has received instructions covering all contingencies in the event of an advance of the enemy from Arkansas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—If the pontoon train preparing at Shreveport is ready, I respectfully ask that it be sent down to me by the Mount Pleasant road, as it can be of great service.

R. T.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Beasley's, March 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Since my last I have no new movement of the enemy to communicate save the withdrawal of his forces from the Bayou Rapides toward Alexandria, for the purpose, I presume, of concentrating on the Bayous Robert and Boeuf to meet Franklin's infantry

coming up from Opelousas, and which, from the best information I can gather, in all probability encamped last night at Lecompte. As before stated, my cavalry force is so small that I can only get information at long intervals, and when it is too late to benefit me. Nothing has been heard up to this hour (12 m.) of Green's forces. As soon as he joins me I shall move in the direction of Alexandria unless I find that the enemy's force is too large for me to engage him with a prospect of success. I shall want all the commissary supplies that can be accumulated, and therefore respectfully urge that they be sent down to me as fast as possible to Grand Ecore, or such other points as it will be safe for boats to venture to. I am picketing the river for 60 miles below Grand Ecore, and can always give timely notice of the approach of the enemy. I beg to call attention to the accompanying application for the appointment of Mr. Hunter as an officer of my staff, and respectfully ask that the lieutenant-general commanding will take such immediate action thereon as is compatible with the extent of his authority.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—My opinion is that the enemy's force when united will not exceed 24,000. It is possible also that the force from Sherman's army, some 6,000 to 8,000 strong, may be withdrawn when Banks' whole army arrives.

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In anticipation of the arrival of General Green's forces I would respectfully request that as large supplies as possible of forage be sent down to Grand Ecore, or such other point on Red River as my pickets may designate as safe. My means of land transportation being limited, it will be impossible for me to supply from the interior so large a number of animals. I received to-day a dispatch from Brigadier-General Major, commanding Green's division, dated Hempstead, 17th instant, advising the advance of his troops. The courier who brings it, and who appears a reliable man, does not consider the command will cross the Sabine before the 26th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 24, 1864.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to hand, herewith inclosed, for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding, copy of letter dated 23d instant from General Liddell to me. I also hand for his

information the substance of information obtained by me from Capt. George Sweney, who arrived here to-day from Alexandria, which place he left on 21st instant at 2 p. m. Captain Sweney's statement that there was not a large force of cavalry about there at the time, reconcilable upon the supposition that Banks' cavalry from below was not about the town, but out on Bayou Boeuf. Nothing up to this time to-day from Colonel Bush's scouts or officers in the direction of Monett's Ferry. The river at Grand Ecore has risen about 1 foot during the past four days, and is rising now at the rate of 2 inches in twenty hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Since the foregoing was written I have received a dispatch* from, or written by direction of, Lieutenant-Colonel Bringier, of which you have copy with this.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NORTH LOUISIANA,
Columbia, March 23, 1864.

Capt. A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Natchitoches:

CAPTAIN: I have been directed by the lieutenant-general commanding to burn all the cotton without delay east of the Ouachita which has not been disposed of by the Government. He informs me that the position of the major-general commanding is such as to render it difficult for me to communicate with him, and further directs that I put myself in communication with General Price. Immediately on receipt of these instructions I issued the necessary orders for the burning of the cotton as directed, feeling well satisfied, too, in my own mind that this part of country is threatened, and the danger of the cotton falling into enemy's hands is becoming imminent, requiring me to take action without further delay. Colonel Capers, commanding at Harrisonburg, dispatches me, under date of the 22d instant, that—

A man who left Natchez on Monday last (the 21st instant) reports a large cavalry force crossing at Vidalia, bringing their pontoon bridges with them. The object is said to be to go across the country to Alexandria.

As soon as the cotton is burned and I can collect the scattered forces of my command I design moving all transportation to the rear and moving my command to the assistance of the major-general commanding toward Red River, unless otherwise ordered by department or district headquarters or by General Price.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 24, 1864.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Capt. George Sweney, a steam-boat man, well known in Shreveport, left Alexandria on the 21st instant at 2 o'clock. As

* Not found.

I regard his statements reliable as far as he had opportunities for getting information, I give them to you. There were at Alexandria on Monday, 21st instant, eighteen gun-boats, twenty-two transports, one small stern-wheel gun-boat, and three propeller tugs (tenders). All the gun-boats but the stern-wheeler were large boats and heavily loaded with coal. A steam-boat acquaintance of Captain Sweney connected with the fleet told him that none of the gun-boats drew less than 9 feet except the stern-wheel boat. The propeller tugs had crossed the falls back and forth two or three times. A pilot named Tennison, known to Captain S., told him he had sounded the falls once or twice and found only 6 feet of water on them. Captain Sweney says, however, there was at least 7 feet water on the falls then, but it would require a rise of 2 to 4 feet more to let the large gun-boats over. The transports were of a class of boats that could cross the falls then. There was an infantry force of about 6,000 at Alexandria; not much artillery nor much cavalry. He heard Fort De Russy had been destroyed. Banks was not in Alexandria. General Smith was in command. The enemy were appropriating the provisions, wood, cotton, stores, &c., belonging to the citizens, and wantonly destroying what they did not have use for. Captain Sweney was present or in sight when a captain of one of the boats there was bargaining with a woman to buy a hogshead of sugar. An officer rose up and prohibited the purchase of the sugar, and said they had come to take, not to buy. A boat had gone down from Alexandria loaded with cotton. General Smith was called on to know whether citizens would be paid for cotton, &c., taken from them. His reply was: "We did not come here to buy; we came to take. At the end of the war those who can establish that they were loyal to the United States when their property was taken from them will be paid for it." The negroes were all gone from Cotile down to Alexandria. Those not carried off by their owners had run away or been taken by the Yankees. Captain Sweney was taken prisoner by a squad of Yankee cavalry at Judge Boyce's house on the night of the 21st instant. They kept him prisoner in the neighborhood until the evening of the 22d, when they released him. Captain Sweney says there was no force of the enemy about Cotile on the evening of the 22d, the force that operated against the Second Louisiana Cavalry on the night of 21st having gone back to Alexandria, or in that direction. The only advance of the enemy this side of Cotile up to the time that Captain Sweney passed up was by a small force of cavalry that came out to Mrs. Griffith's, this side of Cotile 3 miles, on 20th, and went back.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: The lieutenant-general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 19th instant, and to say General Price's division will be at Shreveport to-morrow morning. He directs that you keep him constantly advised whether

it will be practicable for this command to come down by water, or will have to move by land. If you move up above Natchitoches the latter route will be necessary. Information from Red River above this point represents the water very low.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of dispatches from your headquarters of the 24th instant. It will be perfectly practicable at the present time for General Price's command to be transported by water to Grand Ecore. Should there be danger I can always advise it in time to land at Blair's Landing, 34 miles above Grand Ecore by water, and 15 miles across via Jordan's Ferry and Bayou Pierre to Pleasant Hill. This would save 60 or 70 miles of marching. The question of supplies will be a serious one, and should receive immediate attention. The enemy will ravage and exhaust the whole territory he now possesses, and my army is making heavy drains upon this section, and to this will be added the demands of Green's large cavalry force. I would therefore suggest that as large a number as possible of flats and barges be prepared to boat supplies of corn and subsistence down the river in the event of low water. I am still ignorant of what disposition the enemy has made or is making of his large force, and have no news of Green since I last wrote you. The difficulty of obtaining accurate intelligence is greatly enhanced by jayhawkers. The whole country between this and Alexandria swarms with these outlaws, who are allied with the enemy and acting in his interests. Several of our scouts have been murdered, and it is more dangerous for small parties to pass through the pine woods than it would be to penetrate the enemy's lines. Besides, the intimate acquaintance of the country possessed by these people renders it impossible to escape their vigilance. The arrival of one, or two even, of Green's regiments will change the whole aspect of affairs.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Beasley's, March 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the arrival this evening of an officer of Green's advance regiment, sent on to advise the approach of the division, which is moving from Jasper via Milan and Sabinetown, which point the first regiment will reach to-morrow. No movement of the enemy northward from Alexandria up to this morning, though I anticipate an advance to-morrow or the next day,

as his infantry and cavalry have by this time united. As I have previously stated, I shall assume the offensive as soon as Green joins me, and again beg leave to urge the prompt forwarding of supplies of all descriptions. In the exhausted state of the country this will be my great want.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR.
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have advanced from Alexandria, coming up Bayou Rapides as far as Monett's Ferry last evening. As it is not possible for General Green to join me in force for several days, I fear I will be compelled to fall back to Fort Jesup and Pleasant Hill, which will be a great calamity, since it is much more difficult to assume the offensive from either of the above points than from my present position. I had hoped to hear something in regard to General Price's advance from your communication of the 26th instant, but presume the lieutenant-general commanding did not consider it safe to dispatch these troops by water to Grand Ecore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Dr. Scruggs', March 28, 1864—8.50 o'clock.

Capt. A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Natchitoches:

CAPTAIN: The enemy made their appearance last evening at Monett's Ferry, but there is no sign of them this morning. I have sent scouting parties to the front. I have to request that you will be pleased to order back to these headquarters all men and officers of my command, many of whom are straggling in Natchitoches. Under directions from major-general commanding will keep you informed of any important movement of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

W. G. VINCENT.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches—5.30 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Col. S. S. Anderson, assistant adjutant-general, for information of the lieutenant-general commanding. If there are any men of Colonel Vincent's command straggling about this place I have not been able to see them, nor has the commander of the post.

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, March 28, 1864.

Capt. A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Colonel Vincent's latest dispatches advise the enemy's advance at Monett's Ferry. Make your arrangements accordingly in regard to Government property. If the Arkansas troops have started down send up and stop them at Blair's Landing. The advance regiment of Green's division has been ordered across by the Fort Jesup road to report to you and join the cavalry of Colonel Vincent, wherever it may be. Keep sending supplies to the last moment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. SURGET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

You will warn Major McPhaill, commanding Green's advance, in case the enemy's movement will not admit of his going to Natchitoches.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I had the honor at 2 p. m. to-day to forward you official copy of a communication I had just read from Maj. E. Surget, assistant adjutant-general, giving information that Colonel Vincent's latest dispatches advised the enemy's advance at Monett's Ferry. Since then I have received a dispatch direct from Colonel Vincent, giving later intelligence than Major Surget had when he wrote the communication referred to above, copy of which I sent you. Colonel Vincent's dispatch to me is dated this morning at Dr. Scruggs'. He says the enemy made their appearance last evening at Monett's Ferry, but there were no signs of them this morning. He had sent scouting parties to the front. Dr. Scruggs lives at Cloutierville. He has a plantation 4 miles below there on Cane River. Colonel Vincent will keep me advised of any important movement of the enemy. I inclose you the original dispatch* from Colonel Vincent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—I have just received a communication† to Brigadier-General Boggs, chief of staff, from the major-general commanding, which goes with this.

A. H. M.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Beasley's, March 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have just received a letter from the Hon. D. F. Kenner, stating that my communication of the 23d instant had been con-

* See p. 511.
† See following communication.

strued to mean that I did not desire re-enforcements, and therefore Churchill's division had been detained at Shreveport. My language was: "As soon as Green joins me I shall assume the offensive, and hope to be able to do so without the assistance of General Price, as I do not doubt the intention of the enemy to move forward from Arkansas." I can scarcely conceive how this could be interpreted into a declaration that I did not want re-enforcements. At the time I did not know where Price's troops were, or at what time they could reach Shreveport. Very possible movements in Arkansas might have rendered it impossible to send them to me, and I only desired to assure the lieutenant-general commanding that I would do all in my power without Price's troops in case they could not be sent. It is most unfortunate that my desire to relieve the lieutenant-general commanding from embarrassment should involve a delay in sending re-enforcements to this army. Green was to have been at Alexandria on the 17th. On the 28th, his leading regiment has not reached me here. If to obtain re-enforcements it is necessary to set up a clamor and urge the abandonment of all the department for my selfish ends, I cannot do it. I have given the lieutenant-general commanding the most hearty and cordial support in all cases. I have never uttered a complaint. I have been willing to shoulder all responsibility for the good of the cause, and feel deeply grieved that so little anxiety should be manifested to strengthen my forces. When Green joins me, I repeat, I shall fight a battle for Louisiana, be the forces of enemy what they may.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: The lieutenant-general commanding directs me to say, in acknowledging the receipt of your communication of the 28th, that Price's division arrived at this point on the 24th instant. It numbers 4,000 bayonets. The ammunition is in bad order, much of it unserviceable. It has been compelled to wait for good ammunition. Meanwhile it is being reorganized into two divisions. The developments of three or four days will decide the lieutenant-general commanding whether this force will be pushed straight to you or moved to meet Steele, who is reported advancing upon Washington, Ark., with 10,000 men and twenty-four pieces of artillery. Should he move rapidly, so as to come soon within reach, it may be best to fight him first above, which will make a larger force disposable to be sent you if we are successful. Should you fall back beyond Natchitoches, the lieutenant-general commanding desires that you examine the country in the vicinity of Spanish Lake with reference to its susceptibility of defense. A position there would secure water transportation as far as Blair's Landing. He directs that as many supplies as possible be accumulated at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
Near Beasley's, March 29, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General Boggs,
Chief of Staff:

General: The enemy for two days has been massing his forces at Monett's, and threw over his first troops at 4 p. m. to-day. This deprives me of the forage and subsistence on Cane River, and will throw me back on Pleasant Hill to await Green and obtain supplies. Every wagon that can be obtained in the country should be sent to me with shelled corn. To take the offensive I must retrace my steps over this road and strike for Alexandria. The road passes through a barren pine region the entire distance (some 80 miles). The positions I have taken up has restrained the enemy, enabled me to forage, covered Cane River, and preserved my communication with Shreveport and with Green's line of march. Had the enemy been enterprising he might have inflicted severe loss on me, as I have not had mounted men to picket the roads. None of Green's command have come up yet. One regiment will probably reach me to-morrow, but several days will elapse before the first brigade of three regiments can get up. Natchitoches will fall into the enemy's possession and a frightful destruction of property must occur. Much time must ensue in preparing for the offensive before we can move from Pleasant Hill. Two weeks have elapsed since the fall of Alexandria, and I have cherished the hope from day to day that assistance would reach me before I was forced to give up the producing country. The infantry and trains will move on Pleasant Hill to-morrow via Jesup.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
Natchitoches, March 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. Boggs,
Chief of Staff:

I reached this [place] some two hours since. The enemy is within 12 or 14 miles in full force. He will occupy the place in the morning if he sees proper. Only one of General Green's regiments has reached here. It will go to the front in the morning. The regiment numbers 250—no very heavy re-enforcement. The next regiment numbers 350, with more than half the men reported unarmed. It will reach here to-morrow. No more can arrive for several days. I feel some disappointment that no more interest was felt in Texas to push the troops rapidly to me and well armed. When Texas was threatened I voluntarily offered troops to defend her, and sent them well armed and with full supplies of ammunition. Besides, I have constantly expressed my entire willingness to serve under the command of General Magruder in case he could not consent to his troops coming to my assistance. Your dispatch of the 29th instant (No. 2460) has just come to hand. I respectfully suggest that the only possible way to defeat Steele's movement is to whip the enemy now in the heart of the Red River Valley. Price's command could have been here on the 28th, and I could have fought a battle for the department to-day. To decline concentration when we have the

means, and when the enemy is already in the vitals of the department, is a policy I am too obtuse to understand. There is no position short of the head of Spanish Lake, 18 miles from here, where I can undertake to do anything with my present means. In fact, Pleasant Hill, with an effort to hold the country to Blair's Landing, is the only position where I can await Green's forces and secure subsistence and forage. The enemy is in formidable numbers, prepared to overrun the Red River Valley, and he must and will succeed unless all the means at our disposal are used energetically to prevent him. I most respectfully call attention to the fact that sixteen days after the fall of Fort De Russy and the opening of the campaign by the enemy only 250 re-enforcements have reached me.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Campti, March 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I left Natchitoches today at 11 a. m., just before the head of the enemy's column reached the place. I am on the steamer Frolic, and shall proceed to Blair's to inspect the road to Pleasant Hill, at which place the main body of my troops will encamp to-night. General Liddell has been ordered to throw the larger portion of Harrison's brigade on the river at and above Campti, with a battery of artillery. I propose placing artillery below Blair's, on the west side. By this means I hope to secure navigation down to Blair's, and thus sustain the troops at or near Pleasant Hill. From all I can learn, it will be ten days before Green's command will reach me, one regiment under Major McPhaill having alone come up. The troops ordered here from Texas, excepting Green's original division, have been directed to halt in Polk County until further orders, so I am informed by Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert. If this be true, Green will bring me less than 2,000 men. Had I conceived for an instant that such astonishing delay would ensue before re-enforcements reached me I would have fought a battle even against the heavy odds. It would have been better to lose the State after a defeat than surrender it without a fight. The fairest and richest portion of the Confederacy is now a waste. Louisiana may well know her destiny. Her children are exiles; her labor system is destroyed. Expecting every hour to receive the promised re-enforcements, I did not feel justified in hazarding a general engagement with my little army. I shall never cease to regret the error.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Natchitoches, March 31, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that the last dispatch from Col. W. G. Vincent, who is in the front, represents the advance

of the enemy at Madam B. Metoyer's place, about 13 miles below here on the Cane River road. The hour at which Colonel Vincent's dispatch was written is not mentioned, but it was probably written an hour and a half ago. Walker's and Mouton's divisions were to encamp last night at Fort Jesup, and are expected to camp to-night in the vicinity of Pleasant Hill. The Fifth Texas Regiment (Colonel McPhaill's) went down to Colonel Vincent's assistance at 5 o'clock this morning. The second regiment of the advance of Green's division (Colonel Herbert's), expected here this morning, has not arrived yet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. MAY,
[*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*]

[No. 2514.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Comdg. Dist. of West Louisiana, in the Field:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th instant. Major Thomas has been directed to collect supplies at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. Colonel O'Bannon will endeavor to collect wagons through the country below for the purposes desired by yourself. He has no disposable transportation here at his command. Your chief quartermaster might send his own agents above Natchitoches with instructions to collect the transportation of the country. Steele was at Arkadelphia on the morning of the 28th, with four brigades of infantry, a division of cavalry, and thirty pieces of artillery. A brigade was moving to his support from the upper Arkansas. His force is estimated at from 10,000 to 12,000. *His line of march will probably be by Washington. He comes in the most favorable direction for our operations. Should these columns push on our position gives us great facilities for concentrating on one or the other. While General Price's force is not sufficient to engage the enemy with his large cavalry force, he should retard their advance, and, operating on their line of communications, make their movement extremely hazardous, if not disastrous. If the enemy moves up from Alexandria in the force reported you will be compelled to fall back toward Pleasant Hill and Mansfield. A general engagement should not be risked without hopes of success. The enemy have now west of the Mississippi some 50,000 men operating against us. We do good service in giving occupation to so large a force, which should be employed in the campaigns in Georgia and Virginia. The destruction of either of the little armies at our disposal would be fatal to the whole cause and to the department. Our rôle must be a defensive policy where the enemy is largely our superior, and where our columns come within a practicable distance of each other, concentrating rapidly upon and crushing one or the other of the enemy's column. Our situation here, with the enemy coming from Washington on the east bank of Red River, and from Natchitoches on the west bank, is extremely favorable for successfully effecting such a concentration. The delay of Green's command in reporting to you is most extraordinary. I

*From this to end of dispatch is inclosure No. 1 (No. 2514) to Smith's report of June 11, 1864.

have forwarded you the dispatches from General Magruder announcing the march of the different regiments. You will demand a strict explanation of the delay, which seems to have been unnecessary. Every exertion has been made at department headquarters to push that command rapidly to your support. I inclose you copies of my dispatches to General Magruder.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., March 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th instant. I do not regard myself responsible for any interpretation that may have been given to my letter of 23d instant. It certainly was not justified by anything said or felt by myself. I had at that very time sent to you the Northern estimate of the force in your front, which I believed merited some credence or I would not have forwarded it. While I know you do not call for re-enforcements unless compelled by necessity, that you appreciate the inadequate means at my disposal, and have always given me a hearty and cordial support, I object to the tone of your letter, which is an unjust complaint, founded on a private letter of a civilian. Mr. Kenner was given access to your letter of the 23d instant to relieve his anxiety in regard to your position below, certainly not expecting that he would write anything to impair or interrupt the harmony and good understanding that has always hitherto characterized our official relations.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

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[No. 2510.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 30th ultimo. The arrival of the Texas troops in an unarmed condition should be examined into and reported fully upon. General Magruder telegraphs that he issued arms to them before they marched. The delay of the arrival of the Texas cavalry is both vexatious and annoying. Due allowance, however, must be made for the great distance to be marched over. The concentration of Price's infantry with you on the 28th ultimo could not have been effected. It was only on the 30th the ammunition for that command arrived. It is now organized and prepared to move in any direction that circumstances may demand. General Steele, re-enforced by the Fort Smith command, marches with probably 14,000 or 15,000 effective men. I have had no definite reports since the arrival of General Steele on the 28th ultimo. His preparations indicate the determination to press rapidly on. Further developments of the enemy's

movements will determine the column upon which the concentration must be made. I would call your attention to the dispatches to General Magruder inclosed in my letter of the 31st ultimo.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Pleasant Hill, April 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of dispatches No. 2510, of the 1st instant, and of 2509, of the 31st ultimo. No dispatches to General Magruder were inclosed in the latter. The enemy reached Natchitoches at 2 p. m. on the 31st ultimo. The advance, five regiments of cavalry and a battery; troops close in the rear. Skirmishing, with some loss on both sides, continued up to the town. Last night three regiments of cavalry reached Dupont's Bridge, at the head of Spanish Lake. My cavalry was directed to hold Dupont's Bridge to cover my left flank, but failed to remain there. The commanding officer will probably be arrested. Colonel Bagby, who arrived yesterday, went to the front to take command. McPhaill's regiment (250, of which 50 unarmed) and Bagby's regiment (350, of which 125 unarmed) constitute his force. Vincent's regiment is so used up that I have sent it near Blair's Landing for the time to rest. Debray's regiment (510, well armed) should reach me to-day. All other troops from Texas have been directed to cross the Sabine at Logansport and join me via Mansfield. The route by Sabinetown is no longer safe. General Green arrived last night. He informs me that he found two officers of General Magruder's staff at the Sabine, with orders to turn back all transportation beyond a limited amount to each regiment. As we shall require every wagon that can be obtained to haul subsistence and forage, I respectfully call the attention of the lieutenant-general commanding to the subject. An officer of General Bee's staff, just arrived, informs me General Bee has been instructed to leave six of his eleven ordnance wagons on the Texas side of the Sabine. Six of the enemy's vessels were at Saint Maurice, 15 miles below Grand Ecore, last evening. Pickets report them gun-boats. They are probably transports with some artillery on board. I have directed the troops of General Liddell at Campti to go down and attack them, and keep at them until land forces are thrown on that side of the river, which is not yet the case. Depots are being created at Mansfield and Keachie, and I am using every effort to get up forage from Blair's Landing, 15 miles distant. The force of the enemy is composed of the Nineteenth Corps, under Franklin, say 7,000; the Thirteenth Corps, under McClernand, 10,000; 6,000 of Hurlbut's Sixteenth Corps from Vicksburg, and four brigades of mounted men under General Lee. The whole amounts to 24,000 or 25,000 men. Although these estimates are much below others, I give them with diffidence, not having had the means to force the display of enemy's strength without fighting a battle.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 3, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. E. KIRBY SMITH,
Comdg. Trans-Mississippi Department, Shreveport, La.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication (No. 2509) of the 31st ultimo. My communication of the 28th was based upon a letter from Mr. D. F. Kenner, a member of Congress from Louisiana. This letter bore date of the 26th ultimo and contained the following statement:

> I called General Smith's attention to the great importance of sending you re-enforcements immediately. What was my astonishment when he replied that you did not desire any re-enforcements. I exclaimed that that was impossible. He said that you had so written, and called for your last letter, which he handed me, calling my attention to that passage, &c.

Here follows the quotation from my letter of the 23d ultimo, given in full in my communication of the 28th ultimo. Although Mr. Kenner is a civilian, I considered his statements reliable and felt hurt that such a construction should have been placed on my language. I certainly would have been the first commander possessing ordinary sense who voluntarily declined re-enforcements while retreating before a superior force. My susceptibility in this matter was very materially augmented by a recurrence to the events of last year. After the withdrawal of General Banks from Alexandria it was frequently stated by an officer of your staff (Surg. S. A. Smith, inspector of hospitals), supposed by the public to possess your confidence to a greater degree than any officer of the department, that I was alone responsible for the enemy's raid through Louisiana, for that in his hearing you had offered me troops, and I had declined to receive them. This statement Surgeon Smith repeatedly made to respectable gentlemen in Alexandria. Believing that the statement was made through ignorance, I did not permit it to make any impression on my mind, and did not even contradict it when repeated to me. The statement of Mr. Kenner revived the recollection of the circumstance. I am not desirous to escape any just responsibility, and feel conscious that much blame properly belongs to me as the immediate commander to whom was intrusted the defense of Louisiana, now in possession of the enemy. In reviewing my communication of the 28th ultimo I can find nothing disrespectful or improper, and I am fully impressed with what is due from a subordinate to his military superior.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that Brigadier-General Churchill, with the forces under his command, reached Keachie this morning. I have directed him to remain at that point until further orders, hoping to have an answer to my communication to department headquarters relative to the future campaign to-night. If I receive no orders to the contrary, and certain regiments of Green's

division previously mentioned reach me to-night and to-morrow as I anticipate, I shall order General Churchill to join me in the morning and move at once on Natchitoches.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my arrival here from Pleasant Hill, which latter point I left about midday. I found it impossible to forage the command at Pleasant Hill, there being no corn nearer than 20 miles. Blair's Landing was practically much farther, owing to the crossing of Bayou Pierre, a stream nearly as wide and deep as the main Red River.

On the evening of the 1st instant, fearing the enemy might attack the troops arriving from Texas via Sabinetown, as his advance had reached a point 17 miles this side of Natchitoches, I dispatched an officer with escort to order Colonel Debray, known to be near Many with his regiment and two batteries, to push on before day and join me without delay. All other troops were ordered to cross the Sabine at Logansport and join me at Mansfield. Colonel Debray received the order at 2 a. m., but for some reason did not leave Many until 6 p. m. His instructions were to join Colonel Bagby on the Natchitoches road by a cross-road some 12 miles from Pleasant Hill, sending forward directly to the latter place his wagons and the two batteries. While marching on this cross-road, at about 2 p. m. on the 2d instant, he suddenly encountered the enemy in superior force. Like a gallant veteran he made fight at once, returned to the direct road, and fell back until he met my infantry, coming in in fine order and protecting his two batteries and trains, although pursued until he joined me. Colonel Debray lost several killed and wounded. Considering the suddenness of the attack, and the fact that his regiment had never before been in action, this officer, as well as his troops, deserves great credit. At the same hour Colonel Bagby, commanding his own, McNeill's, and some companies of Bush's newly raised regiment, with a section of the Valverde Battery, was attacked on the Natchitoches road by cavalry, infantry, and artillery. He fell back slowly toward Pleasant Hill, skirmishing briskly. I pushed forward supports some 4½ miles to meet him, but the enemy desisted a little before sundown and did not quite reach my position. Colonel Bagby lost some 25 or 30 killed and wounded, and inflicted probably more loss on the enemy. His conduct was, as always, that of a brave and skillful soldier. This morning I offered battle to the enemy until 10 o'clock, which he declined accepting. My trains being then well on the way to this point, I slowly withdrew my infantry without molestation, leaving Debray and Bagby with the Valverde Battery at Pleasant Hill. My impression is the enemy pushed a column last night toward Many and Sabinetown, expecting to meet my re-enforcements on the road. Generals Bee and Major received my dispatch in time and turned everything to Logansport, which they will reach to-morrow, drawing back Buchel's and two of

Major's regiments, which had already crossed at Sabinetown when my dispatch reached there. The arrival of these troops will place me in position to meet the enemy's large mounted force, which has constantly worried me. With no protection to my flanks and compelled to forage at long distances, I have maintained position longer than prudence could justify, and twice offered battle. The enemy has been too sagacious to forego his advantages, and I have been compelled to surrender mile after mile of territory to be utterly ruined without a general battle. The problem now is how to take the offensive when my re-enforcements get up. The line to inflict loss to the enemy is the one by which I have fallen back from Alexandria. This, however, involves the hauling of forage and subsistence the entire distance—some 100 miles.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[No. 2534.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch* from General Price will give you the situation of affairs in Arkansas. Steele was re-enforced at Arkadelphia and moved with a column of between 10,000 and 15,000 effective of all arms. The movements of the enemy, both above and below, indicate to me a common objective point. Should this be so, and either or both columns push forward, the concentration must be made and one of the columns destroyed. My opinion is this should be the lesser, and with the prestige of victory and our combined force we should check, if not defeat, the other column.† On arriving at Washington, Steele can advance by two directions—the road direct down the east bank of Red River, or crossing Red River at Fulton, or near that point, move by Jefferson and Marshall, looking to a concentration with General Banks in the vicinity of either Shreveport or Marshall. From this point to Washington is 105 miles and about 100 to Natchitoches. Their distance apart is too great to make any calculations for concentration. The great superiority of the enemy in your front and your weakness in cavalry compels you to fall back. Mansfield puts you nearly equidistant from this point and from Marshall. Should Steele advance from Washington you will be in position for a concentration in the right direction. The small infantry force here pushed to your support, even had the Texas cavalry effected their junction with your command, would scarcely make you strong enough to fight a battle on which the fate of the department is to depend; it must be done with a more general concentration. General Price has at his command a force of some 7,000 cavalry and 1,500 infantry. Parsons' Texas cavalry brigade, concentrating at Marshall, will number nearly 1,000 armed men. General Price will be instructed to hold his command prepared for rapid marching, as circumstances may require. A decision must now soon

* Not found as an inclosure.

† Portion preceding dagger was inclosure No. 1 (2534) to Smith's report of June 11, 1864.

be taken upon which the fate of the department must rest. You have always cheerfully given me your support, and I feel that I can with confidence call upon you for your views and opinions before taking a step which is alike pregnant with weal or woe for us individually as well as for the country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of dispatch of 3d instant (No. 2534). Steele's advance has been long expected by me (refer to several dispatches on the subject), and his movements have been connected with those of the column in my front; hence my extreme anxiety to fight the latter before it gained too much territory. Like the man who has admitted the robber into his bed-chamber instead of resisting him at the door, our defense will be embarrassed by the cries of wives and children. Action, prompt, vigorous action, is required. While we are deliberating the enemy is marching. King James lost three kingdoms for a mass. We may lose three States without a battle. Banks is cold, timid, easily foiled. He depends principally on the river for transportation. The rapid fall in the river and the sinking of the Falls City may well be expected to delay him. Captain McCloskey has been ordered to sink the Falls City as low down as possible. Banks has a number of very light stern-wheel transports, plated to be musket-proof. These are evidently to bring up supplies after the advance by land has opened the river. Steele is bold, ardent, vigorous. Independent of rivers, his transportation has doubtless been made ample for his purposes. If he has anything like the force represented he will sweep Price from his path. He is the most dangerous and should be met and overthrown at once. Having but little knowledge of the roads and lines of supply above Shreveport, I am unable to express any definite opinion as to the point where Steele should be met. The shortest line is, however, the best. I shall await orders here and prepare for an immediate move. A large portion of the cavalry from Texas will doubtless reach me in the next forty-eight hours via Logansport. All quiet in front and likely to remain so for some hours.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Mansfield, April 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The inclosed dispatch* of this date from General Liddell would appear to indicate an effort on the enemy's part to advance

*See inclosure to letter of Taylor to Boggs, of April 5, p. 523.

by water. From the information I have received all of Green's cavalry force should reach me within the next thirty-six or forty-eight hours. Under these circumstances, unless I receive instructions to the contrary from department headquarters, I shall move on Natchitoches as soon as the re-enforcements from Texas reach me, and thus check the farther advance of Banks' column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to hand you herewith inclosed copy of a communication received from General Liddell this morning. I also have the honor to acknowledge receipt this morning of dispatch No. 2543 and Special Orders, No. 81, paragraph X, from department headquarters. I have sent to the neighborhood of Keachie to select suitable camping-ground for the command of General Churchill should it march to Keachie in accordance with Special Orders, No. 81. Further dispatches expected from department headquarters will determine me as to what orders to give to General Churchill. Looking to the possibility of my being ordered to Shreveport, I am having the road via Kingston put in order, it being the shortest and most practicable to Shreveport. General Major, with one regiment of his own brigade and Buchel's regiment, arrived here this morning. The remainder of Major's command and Terrell's regiment, with General Bee and his command, will probably be here to-night. Gould's, Woods', and Likens' regiments still behind and not yet heard from. The enemy not advancing on the Natchitoches and Mansfield road at last account. The latest dispatches from Colonel Debray represent them as having fallen back on the road to Dupont's Bridge, 18 miles below Pleasant Hill. A dispatch received from Captain McCloskey informs me that he would have the Falls City sunk by this morning near the mouth of Boggy Bayou. I respectfully recommend that the order assigning General Hawes to duty in this district be countermanded, as he was relieved from duty here at his own request, and I am satisfied it would be for the interest of the service to leave Colonel Debray in command of his brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, near Campti, April 4, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. E. SURGET,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state that there are three gun-boats and one transport just below Campti bar moving very slowly and shelling as they ascend. There are ten gun-boats and seventeen

transports at and above Grand Ecore, not including the point mentioned. Colonel Ward reports three regiments of cavalry covering the boats on this bank of the river. The advance of the cavalry skirmished with the advance of Colonel McNeill's command below the town of Campti.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Captain Airey reports having seen the transports crowded with troops and supplies.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 5, 1864—11 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose the latest dispatch received from General Liddell, which will give you the best information from the east side of the river. Captain McCloskey reports the Falls City ready for sinking this afternoon. She will be sunk if General Liddell or the officer in command on this side the river give further information of the enemy's advance. I am awaiting your reply to my dispatches of yesterday touching future movements. I have the honor to report the following in regard to the troops from Texas: Green's old brigade, Colonel Bagby commanding, about 1,100 strong, some 200 not armed, is here; also Major's brigade, 730 strong; Debray's and Buchel's regiments, about 500 each; Terrell's regiment, 360 men for duty, will be here in the morning. General Bee has arrived here in person, but knows nothing of the whereabouts of his brigade, with the exception of Terrell's regiment. Woods', Gould's, and Likens' regiments have not been heard from since the reception of a dispatch from the major of Likens' regiment, dated March 31, stating that his regiment had not left Hempstead, Tex. I have directed General Green to order General Bee to return to Logansport to-morrow to ascertain where the above-named three regiments are and hurry them on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Springville, April 5, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Capt. A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 7 p. m. yesterday. I wrote last evening to Major Surget, briefly stating what had transpired at that date with my command and the locality of the enemy's gun-boats and transports. Up to the present moment I have received no further information from the front, except that no further advance had been made by the enemy beyond Campti. They seem to have had great difficulty in

ascending the river to that point, and I am under the impression that the low and still falling condition of the river will shortly render further progress in that way impossible. In obedience to your orders I will throw sharpshooters at every available position on the river, and I had already anticipated your order to send cavalry on the river below the enemy by directing Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson to operate against the enemy's boats in the manner proposed. I have not heard from him since, nor do I know how far down he has gone. I beg you would send me a map of the scene of operations as far up as Shreveport, as my want of correct knowledge of localities and roads and streams delays my movements, and the guides I find are limited in their knowledge to their own neighborhood only. I shall remain here until driven away by superior numbers, and will comply with your orders to keep up communication with district headquarters.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I respectfully ask to call the attention of the lieutenant-general commanding to the artillery organization of my command, composed (on March 1) of twelve field batteries, numbering sixty pieces, and request that such promotions of meritorious officers of my command be made to fill the positions authorized by law to the above-mentioned number of guns, namely, a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and one other major, to fill the position of chief of artillery for Green's division. I had the honor some time since to invite the attention of department headquarters to this matter, and as I only claim such grades as are common in all other armies, I respectfully ask to know if recommendations I may make of officers who have won promotion on the field and in the faithful discharge of their duties will be favorably considered. Since March 1 several other batteries are on duty with the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two dispatches of 4th instant. At the last intelligence General Steele had not forced the passage of the Little Missouri. The distance between his column and that of Banks' is over 200 miles. It is far too great for us to concentrate on either column. Steele has, moreover, two lines of march after reaching Washington, upon one of which he must be committed before we can operate against him. The whole fate of this department will be staked upon the issue when we meet

the enemy. The battle must be decisive, whether with Steele or Banks. Our position is a good one. We occupy the interior line, and a concentration is being forced which otherwise could never have happened. While we retain our little army undefeated we have hopes. We occupy a largely superior force of the enemy, which east of the Mississippi would decide the fate of the campaign. When we fight it must be for victory. Defeat not only loses the department, but releases the armies employed against us here for operations beyond the Mississippi. The advantage of our position should not be given up by any movement which may jeopardize the loss of the command. I will leave here to-night and meet you early to-morrow morning at your headquarters near Mansfield, where I can confer with you clearly and unreservedly. Direct a courier to meet me and show me your headquarters. I go by Kingston, and should reach you by daylight.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General.

—

Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
In the Field, April 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General Boggs,
Chief of Staff:

General: I have the honor to report that the enemy have driven in my pickets, and advanced some 7 miles, with considerable skirmishing, this side of Pleasant Hill. The force displayed thus far is about 4,000 men (cavalry and mounted infantry). This may be merely a reconnaissance in large force for the forerunner of a positive advance on the part of the enemy with his whole force. I respectfully ask to know if it accords with the views of the lieutenant-general commanding that I should hazard a general engagement at this point, and request an immediate answer, that I may receive it before daylight to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
In the Field, near Mansfield, April 8, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. Boggs,
Chief of Staff:

General: The cavalry forces under General Green had a very severe skirmish with the enemy yesterday afternoon, inflicting on him more loss than was sustained by our own troops. He did not fall back last night, and General Green reports him advancing this morning. Mouton's division has been ordered to the front, and Walker's and Churchill's will be brought forward. I am not aware whether the enemy's whole force is in my front; if so, and he means to move on Shreveport, I consider this as favorable a point to engage him at as any other.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 8, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We commenced skirmishing with the enemy about 2.30 p. m., which continued heavy for some time, the battle becoming general about 4 p. m. We have driven the enemy at this hour 3 miles, with a loss to him of six guns, and, as far as ascertained, many hundred prisoners. We are still driving him. We have lost some very valuable officers, among others the gallant and chivalric General Mouton. The force of the enemy consists, as far as ascertained, of the Thirteenth Army Corps and troops from other corps, together with the enemy's cavalry force, which is large.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Will report again at the close of the action. Churchill's troops were not up in time to take part in the action, and will be fresh in the morning. I shall push the enemy to the utmost.

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IN THE FIELD, *April* 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Since my last I have driven the enemy at least 3 miles farther, captured hundreds of wagons, many guns, caissons, ordnance wagons, &c. Some prisoners of the Nineteenth Army Corps have been captured. Banks and Franklin were both on the field. I shall push the enemy with Churchill's fresh troops in the morning.

Very respectfully,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

The battle still rages, and my loss in officers has been heavy.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 8, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the fighting continued until night. The fight then for water was very severe, the enemy being at that time re-enforced by the Nineteenth Corps. We fought the Thirteenth Army Corps all day, and late in the evening met the Nineteenth Army Corps; repulsed and drove them back. We have captured about 2,000 prisoners, 20 pieces of artillery, 200 wagons, and thousands of small-arms. Our loss in officers has been severe, and we have many wounded. Send all the medical assistance and medical stores you can, and if you have any re-enforcements hurry them down. Churchill's and Parsons' divisions, which did not take part in the fight to-day, have been ordered to the front before daylight to-morrow morning. I shall continue to push the enemy with the utmost vigor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

[No. 2595.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: A general engagement now could not be given with our full force. Re-enforcements are moving up—not very large, it is true. If we fall back without a battle you will be thrown out of the best country for supplies. I would compel the enemy to develop his intentions, selecting a position in rear where we can give him battle before he can march on and occupy Shreveport. I will order down now all the armed cavalry from near Marshall and forward Pratt's battery from this point with every available man before a battle is fought. Let me know as soon as you are convinced that a general advance is being made and I will come to the front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. KIRBY SMITH,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
April 9, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy are in full retreat. His forces are composed of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Army Corps. The Nineteenth was smartly engaged last evening. General Banks was in command in person, and this morning came very near being captured. I am pursuing the enemy with cavalry, followed up by infantry. General Churchill's division in advance of the infantry. If the wind holds and circumstances will admit, I will follow the enemy to Natchitoches.

Very respectfully,
R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Two Miles above Pleasant Hill, [*April* 9, 1864]—10.40 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the cavalry has pursued the enemy to this point, capturing many prisoners of the Nineteenth Army Corps and some few of the Thirteenth. He has retreated rapidly, commencing the movement a short time after midnight. The burning wagons, abandoned arms, knapsacks, and other property along the road furnish ample evidence of the haste with which he is endeavoring to get away. He is now making something of a stand here for the purpose of gaining time and possibly to cover the Blair's Ferry road. I ordered a cavalry force on that road last night for the purpose of ascertaining whether there was any movement from the river. My information from Grand Bayou is to the effect that ten gun-boats and a number of transports were passing Grappe's Bluff slowly at 3.30 p. m. yesterday, crowded with troops. I shall

do my best to force the enemy to retreat by the Natchitoches road around the head of Spanish Lake, which road is a desert for many miles. My infantry is much jaded and not yet up. Churchill's troops marched over 20 miles yesterday and have done about the same to-day, starting at 10 p. m.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The large amount of artillery now under my command necessitates its organization into regiments or battalions, in accordance with the law governing that branch of the service. I have therefore the honor to recommend the following officers for promotion: Maj. J. L. Brent, chief of artillery and ordnance District of West Louisiana, to be appointed colonel of artillery; Maj. T. B. French, chief of artillery Walker's division, to be appointed lieutenant-colonel of artillery; Capt. T. A. Faries, commanding Pelican Battery, to be appointed major of artillery. There will be one or more officers from the Texas batteries recommended for promotion to the rank of major.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I inclose you the dispatches from the river below. The general commanding directs me to say he does not understand which side of the river they are landing. Pickets have been posted on both sides of the river to give information, of which you shall be kept advised. The ferry at Red Bluff, Bayou Pierre, is an important strategic point, which must be looked to. This place has been entirely denuded of troops. I can only arm about 200 men. Its protection and defense is of paramount importance, and you must make dispositions of your troops accordingly. All the workshops and foundries being here makes it highly valuable and renders its safety essential. The officer sent down on this side of the river to reconnoiter has been instructed to destroy every facility and means of crossing at Jones' Bayou, should the enemy be advancing on that road. Colonel Luckett's regiment has been ordered to be diverted to this point.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Mansfield, April 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the enemy at last accounts at Bayou Rubis, 18 miles below Pleasant Hill, on the Natchitoches road. About 40 of his cavalry succeeded in passing up the river yesterday above Grand Bayou, doubtless for the purpose of warning the boats back. General Bagby, with his command and artillery, is on the river ready to receive him. General Liddell is in position above Campti. I am in great want of a pontoon, and respectfully ask that one be sent me in charge of an officer who understands the management of it. I also request that some arrangement be made to receive the prisoners at Marshall, Tex., in order that my escorts of cavalry may return immediately to their commands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that information has just been received from Brigadier-General Bagby that twenty-two boats passed Grand Bayou at 10 a. m. to-day, going down the river. As I informed you to-day, General Liddell is in position about Campti, and I hope to hear a favorable report from him to-morrow. Should the boats pass General Liddell at Campti, he has been directed to push down to Saint Maurice with cavalry and artillery, and strain every nerve to capture or destroy them. He has been directed, further, to follow the boats down the river as long as they are on it. I have been making every effort to get cavalry and artillery in on this side of the river below the boats to cut them off, and nothing but the forage question will prevent my doing it. Please send down and have the Falls City blown out of the river, and send forage and supplies down on boats to meet my pickets on the river. Let me know the news from Arkansas. Steele will no doubt commence retreating as soon as he hears the news from this quarter. If he is retreating endeavor to send me a pontoon and let me push my whole force south as rapidly as possible, to follow and prevent the escape of the enemy. I will strike for New Orleans, or, at least, Algiers. Vincent, with his own and Bush's regiments, has been ordered to push for the lower Boeuf and sweep the country to Berwick Bay. His men know the country, and going there with the prestige of success, their numbers will treble in three days after reaching Opelousas. Orders have also been given to shoot every jayhawker in the country without benefit of clergy. Should the remnant of Banks' army escape me I shall deserve to wear a fool's cap for a helmet. Every hour proves the terrific losses sustained by the foe.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 11th instant. Colonel Anderson will send you by to-day's courier the order of promotions. Colonel Speight's name is not included, for the reasons mentioned in your letter. I have concluded also to withhold Colonel Gray's appointment till I hear further from you. His habits, I understand, are not good, and the appointment, if bad, once made cannot be undone, however much it may be regretted. I will await further recommendations from you in his case.

Your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

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[No. 2646.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: Your letter of 8 p. m. yesterday is just received. I inclose you copy of a dispatch from General Price of the same date. Steele is bold to rashness; will probably push on without thought or circumspection. To win the campaign his column must be destroyed. Should you move below and Steele's small column push on and accomplish what Banks has failed in, and destroy our shops at Jefferson and Marshall, we will not only be disgraced, but irreparably deprived of all our means and resources. Banks is certainly so crippled that he cannot soon take the offensive. Most probably he will fall back to Alexandria. The patient, uncomplaining spirit manifested by Arkansas, the prompt and unselfish behavior of Price in pushing on his whole infantry force to your support, merits a return. Great results are to be reached in that direction if Steele can be reached. Arkansas will be saved politically and the reoccupation of the Arkansas Valley accomplished; full 5,000 good men will be added to our army; the department will be relieved from all trouble on its northern frontier, and the road opened to Missouri when our successes east of the river warrant the advance. Were Steele in retreat the prompt pursuit of Banks would be wise, and might result in inflicting still greater losses upon him. The campaign in Louisiana presents great physical obstacles and does not offer the permanent results that would follow the defeat of Steele alone. The country is exhausted, and if successful we are brought up at the Mississippi without the hope of permanent acquirement while the enemy's navy holds possession of the river. The capture and occupation of New Orleans can alone break up the political organization of the State by the enemy. Their naval superiority makes this result impossible. Prepare your command and organize your trains for rapid movement. The command that marches against Steele must not only move rapidly but must be in strength sufficient to make success certain. Churchill's command, with three additional brigades, may do. I would suggest for the purpose the temporary organization of Randal's, Waul's, and Speight's brigades under Polignac. I inclose some dispatches from General Price and

from the river below. A thousand stand of arms, if they can be spared from the captured property, should be sent immediately to General Price.

Your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS,
Prairie D'Ane, April 11, 1864—7 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: The enemy advanced in force yesterday p. m., and there was severe skirmishing and heavy cannonading until near 11 o'clock. They are now about 3 miles distant, advancing slowly and cautiously in line of battle. I shall make them develop and retire with Marmaduke's division toward Spring Hill. Fagan, with his division, will fall back toward Washington. If the enemy take the Washington road Marmaduke will be in his rear. If he take the Spring Hill road, Fagan will be in his rear. I have received no re-enforcements since my last. My strength is about 5,000 effective men; that of the enemy 12,000. I shall endeavor to draw him on slowly, confident that, removed so far from his base, when re-enforcements reach us (which I trust you will soon be able to spare) his destruction is certain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: If Steele's troops are driven back and no more annoyance to be anticipated from them, I have the honor to ask that you will send me all the infantry re-enforcements you can. A brigade or two would help Polignac's division very much.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

[No. 2676.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 14, 1864—2 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose for your information a dispatch from General Price stating that the enemy appears to be moving for Camden. The general commanding thinks this movement of the enemy is for the purpose of putting himself well in communication with his rear, and if possible with Banks, while at the same

time he puts himself in a position from which he can more easily retreat. General Price has been instructed, if the enemy does approach Camden, to throw a sufficient force of cavalry across the Ouachita River to cut off his supplies and break up his communications. He will use every precaution to retard the enemy's movement and prevent any communication between Banks and Steele.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. CUNNINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS,
In the Field, 4½ miles north of Washington.
April 13, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: Indications are now that the enemy are moving toward Camden. I have ordered Marmaduke with his division up the roads to that point to watch him closely, impede his advance should he attempt to move in that direction, while with the remainder of my force I harass his rear. Brig. Gen. Tandy Walker, with 700 Indians, reached Washington last evening and is now operating with me.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that the two 30-pounder rifled Parrott guns recently sent by me to Shreveport be fitted up as expeditiously as possible with mule teams, battery, and ammunition wagons, &c.—in fact, be put in complete order for service, that I may take them with me when I return from the march northward, as they will be of incalculable value on the Mississippi River.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Mansfield, April 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report as follows: Walker's, Churchill's, and Parsons' divisions took up the march at dawn for Shreveport; the first by the middle road, the two last by the Kingston road. Polignac's division has marched for Alexandria via Pleasant Hill. The cavalry, with five batteries, is near Natchitoches pressing the enemy. Liddell is below Campti and Grand Ecore fighting the fleet. All the boats have passed Campti bar by throwing off stores, &c.; but the loss of life on board the transports has

been terrific. They have tried to surrender several times, but the gun-boats would not cease firing, and consequently our men resumed the slaughter. The enemy will be pressed to the end. I will report at headquarters to-morrow evening.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 20, 1864.

Major-General TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to inform you that Walker's division has been halted and to inquire of you if that division can be moved with safety directly from where it is to Campti. It is now between Minden and Calhoun, about a day's march beyond the former place. General Smith is at Dr. Harris', 24 miles this side of Camden, at the junction of the Wire and Calhoun roads. Telegraphic communication is open to that place. Churchill's division left Magnolia this morning; Parsons' is at Calhoun to-night. Please return answer to the above inquiry as to the safety of moving Walker's division to Campti immediately upon the receipt of this. I have the honor to inclose you copy of dispatch* this moment received from General Boggs, which is the only one received since that of yesterday morning, which you saw. The pontoon ordered to return from Arkansas has not arrived here yet.

I am, general, very respectfully,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, 15 miles from Camden, April 22, 1864.

Major-General TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: Finding that Banks was rapidly retreating down Red River below Natchitoches, while Steele had taken position in Price's front at Camden, I ordered Walker, who had been halted about 40 miles below on the Minden road, to move up to Price's support. Walker was too far off to join you before the enemy reached Alexandria. Steele cannot be left in his present position, strengthened by re-enforcements and supplies, without endangering the fruit of your victories below. He must be driven to fight or to retreat toward the Arkansas, where Fagan has done his work. Retreat to him is as disastrous as defeat. Did General Walker move below to Alexandria? Steele's retreat or advance on Shreveport were equally easy. With General Walker's command the one will be disastrous, the other difficult, if not impossible. Ultimate and substantial results, with a field for important military operations, is opened by the capture or dispersion of Steele's force. In both a political and military point of view everything is to be gained for the department by its accomplishment. If you are convinced that Banks is retreating to New Orleans, and you can leave Polignac or Wharton in command, I would suggest that you repair here in person. I can place you on

*Not found as an inclosure.

duty with your increased rank, and would feel that I had left the conduct of operations in safe hands. I have not received an answer to my letter of the 20th.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, June 12, 1864.

The promotions made in General Taylor's army after the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill were with his approval and at his urgent instance. He was perfectly aware of my powers, or, rather, want of power. He urged the necessity, and that I should take the responsibility, &c. I distinctly told him I had no authority, but that owing to the peculiarity of my situation and from the tenor of Your Excellency's letters I believed that you would sustain me. I offered to put him on duty as lieutenant-general, that he might be the senior in the movement to Arkansas, and might conduct affairs in the event of any accident to myself. Your Excellency was notified of my action in this matter. General Taylor requested that the order should not be published; that the effect with the President would rather be to prevent his receiving the appointment.

Respectfully forwarded.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 23, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have just received a dispatch from General Smith ordering General Walker's division to proceed to Arkansas without delay. Immediately on receipt of your communication this morning informing me it was perfectly safe for the division to proceed to Campti I informed General Walker of the fact, and directed him to move to that point without delay. I inclose you copies* of the dispatches just received from General Smith.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., April 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: By the direction of General Smith I have the honor to forward to you the inclosed telegram,† and to inform you that Captain Fauntleroy, with his batteries, was ordered last night to report to the general commanding in the field in Arkansas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. P. PRATT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General St. John R. Liddell.)

* Not found as inclosures.

† Not found as an inclosure.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, April 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The Falls City has been sufficiently removed to allow small boats to pass. Three passed down night before last and yesterday morning. I received a dispatch from General Smith's headquarters last evening saying General Smith was in Camden, Steele having fled at daylight yesterday morning. We were in pursuit. General Fagan had an engagement on the 25th instant at a place I understand to be about 30 miles from Camden, on the Pine Bluff road, in which he captured 1,000 prisoners, killed and wounded over 500, took all their artillery (6 pieces) and over 300 wagons. The dispatch sent me does not state what force from the enemy this was, but if I am correctly informed as to the point, I judge it must have been a force guarding supplies from Pine Bluff intended for Camden.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near McNutt's Hill, April 30, 1864.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that in view of the fact that there is an extensive depot of corn at Shreveport, I have ordered all the cavalrymen with unserviceable horses to report to Colonel Shivers, commanding the post, to relieve a like number of infantry soldiers from Polignac's division now on guard duty at Shreveport. General Wharton will send a competent officer to Shreveport to establish a camp of instruction and drill these men in infantry tactics. This, however, will not interfere with their performing guard duty. Meanwhile the horses will be recruiting. It is especially desirable to relieve every man possible of my small infantry force, which has been so much reduced by hard fighting and marching, and I trust you will issue such orders as will promptly attain this end.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, May 2, 1864.

Major-General TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that on Saturday, the 30th ultimo, our forces in Arkansas engaged the enemy. The battle is supposed to have taken place near the Saline Bottom, on the road to Little Rock from Camden, although our advices designate no particular point. The battle lasted all day and resulted in our gaining the advantage. The enemy were driven from the field, leaving in our possession their pontoon bridge, several hundred prisoners, many

small-arms, and all their dead and wounded. The exact number is not mentioned. On our side General Scurry is killed, Generals Clark (slightly) and Randal (dangerously) wounded, Colonel Grinsted, of Tappan's (Arkansas) brigade, killed. Their loss is reported to be very great. Ours is considerable. General Waul had his arm broken and was doing well. This is the extent of the information I have received in regard to the affair. General Boggs telegraphs to know whether you can spare the corn between Harrisonburg and the Arkansas line. I send by the courier the maps you asked for a few days ago.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Birney's Creek, May 6, 1864.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: In reply to your communication of the 2d instant, relative to corn in the Ouachita Valley, I have the honor to state that it is at the disposal of the general commanding the department, as I can manage to subsist and forage my small force in the Sub-District of Northern Louisiana from other quarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, May 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 9th instant.* Generals Walker, Churchill, and Parsons' divisions are on the march to re-enforce you. The head of General Walker's column should be to-day near Minden. The stage of water in the river will in all probability retain the enemy's boats above the falls until the arrival of the re-enforcements from Arkansas. I have every confidence in your ability and judgment, and while I do not wish to restrain you in operations which are extraordinary in results and highly creditable to yourself and command, you cannot exercise too much caution in risking a general engagement or in too far committing your whole force to a position on the river below Alexandria beyond the power of retreat in the event of a disaster. The arrival of re-enforcements will make you master of your position and insure the success of your operations.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, May 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th. Churchill's and Parsons' divisions have been countermarched and are now moving toward Camden. General Price has been instructed to prepare for an advance on the Arkansas Valley, and ultimately on Missouri, to accumulate supplies and organize trains with all the means at his command within the District of Arkansas. General Walker's division marched from Homer through the pine woods to Calhoun's plantation. The head of his column should now be near the river in the vicinity of that place. After your ejectment of Banks from Red River Arkansas and Missouri became the true field of operations for the bulk of your command. The disposable force of the department will be concentrated in that direction. You should accompany the column from your district. Your presence will add to its efficiency and increase the prospects of success. You must judge of the force to be left for the defense of your district. Make your dispositions and perfect your arrangements preparatory to the march of the troops. The country between Red River and the Arkansas is almost destitute of supplies. The march of masses across it is a problem presenting difficulties of no slight character. Time and preparation are necessary to success in overcoming them. I will meet you at Natchitoches, or at any point on the river between here and Alexandria. The earliest moment when your duties will permit should be selected, and notification of the point and time given me in advance. A personal interview and consultation regarding the future operations of the campaign is desired.

Regarding the movement of troops from the lower Red River to Arkansas, I forgot to say that the route by Monroe and up the Bartholomew is the most direct, and beyond the Ouachita has not been yet stripped of supplies.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

—

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, June 5, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. TAYLOR:

GENERAL: I shall no further reply to your letter of May 25 [24] than to call your attention to some of the inaccurate and unjust statements made therein.

First. "The reliable infantry commands, viz, Walker's and Polignac's, have dwindled to nothing." When General Walker left Camden to report to you with his division, two weeks previous to the date of your letter, its strength, from a memorandum report which he furnished me, was about 4,500. It has since received accessions of strength and will probably now be found over 5,000 aggregate.

Second. "If I am relieved from the incubus of the Conscript Bureau," &c.; and again, "The conscript laws are a snare and delusion; old regiments which have gained honor on many a well-fought field are reduced to skeletons, while new organizations are

constantly filling up." The Conscript Department has labored under great difficulties, of which not the least was a want of military support. My orders to you directing the detail of troops for that service were not complied with. The failure to do so, though justified by military operations in your district, prevented the enforcement of the conscript act. A battalion of cavalry taken from the Northern Sub-District of Louisiana by my orders and placed under commandant of conscripts sent over 2,000 men to the army. The law is being administered faithfully, and the Conscript Department is unceasing in vigor and efficiency. Its commandant reports that he will this month add from the District of Texas alone near 3,000 to infantry regiments. The principal and almost the only new organization received into service by authority from department headquarters is Bush's regiment. It was given against my judgment, and only after it had been repeatedly urged from your headquarters. On consulting the department books I find that authority was given Major Battle to increase his battalion to a regiment from within the enemy's lines. Authority was also given five persons to raise companies from non-conscripts or within the enemy's lines. One only (Mr. Sewell) was allowed to receive conscripts from the Calcasieu district through its enrolling officer. I inclose you copies* of these authorities.

Third. "The troops are without shoes, &c.; the Clothing Bureau is liberal in promise and utterly barren in performance, &c.; a radical change is imperatively demanded." Allowances should be made for the Clothing Bureau. It has worked under difficulties and disadvantages; crippled in its resources and cut off from its supplies by the loss of the Rio Grande and the action of the Governor of Texas and its State Legislature. The troops have generally been well supplied with clothing. I inclose you memorandum* of shoes, &c., lately sent to your command.

Fourth. "There are no horses for the artillery, &c. They will never be supplied under the present system." The character of the late campaign, its severity, and the absence of forage has made the mortality of horses very great, both in Arkansas and Louisiana. The inspector of field transportation is using every exertion to supply deficiencies. He reports that several hundred have been sent to the army, and that the arrangements recently made by him will meet all its wants.

Fifth. "No campaign dependent on the present system of bureaucracy will succeed. The rage for what is termed 'organization' has proceeded so far that we are like a disproportioned garment—all ruffles and no shirt. The number of bureaus now existing in this department and the army of employés attached to them would do honor to St. Petersburg or Paris. Instead of making the general staff a mere adjunct to promote the efficiency of the little army in the field the very reverse is the case." The bureaus made by me at department headquarters were organized by the advice and instructions of the Secretary of War. They are but few in number and have but few employés. They are a commissary, quartermaster, ordnance, medical, and conscript bureau. I inclose you a list† of their employés, who are, with few exceptions, above conscript age, or with certificate of disability. The late conscript act is rigorously en-

* Not found.

† Omitted. It contains the names of 16 persons—enlisted men and citizens.

forced. All clerks, employés, &c., are required to go before the medical examining board and their certificates carefully scrutinized by the medical director.

Sixth. "No captain or colonel hears of his men falling in the influence of the Shreveport maelstrom but expects to lose him in the labyrinth of a bureau." You were repeatedly directed to send a small regiment or battalion to Shreveport for garrison duty, where it would soon have been filled up, disciplined, and returned to your command. The large shops, arsenals, and depots of supplies required guards. You failed to comply with these directions. Absentees from the different regiments reported at headquarters were ordered to perform this duty. I inclose you copies of the letters and orders* to you on this subject.

Seventh. "Meanwhile the troops in the field are without pay, insufficiently supplied with food," &c. As soon as funds were received from Richmond I directed the payment of the army. The chief of the pay department (Major Carr) stated that the troops in the field did not desire a payment before the issue of the new currency; that he had arranged with them perfectly to their satisfaction to await payment until the new issue was received. Major Thomas, chief commissary, states there is, and was on May 25, abundant supplies at the command of your commissary for the whole army in Louisiana. I inclose their statements.*

Eighth. "Requisitions for the most important articles, upon which depended the fate of a campaign, are lost in a mingled maze of red tape and circumlocution." This is such a general statement that I cannot answer it. Any delay reported to me would have been promptly remedied and the parties neglecting their duty punished.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., June 11, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States:

SIR: I inclose you three letters from General Taylor, marked No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3. The first was received in Arkansas on May 2. The tone of this letter, the feeling exhibited, and the untruthfulness which characterized it throughout surprised and astonished me. I attributed it to sickness and irritation. With the interests of the service at heart and desirous of conciliating General Taylor, I returned it with the accompanying indorsement and without further official action. On my return to Shreveport I received No. 2. H was my first reply. K was subsequently written, but on the receipt of No. 3 was not forwarded.† I would not commence a correspondence which was undignified, unbefitting my position, and could result only in recriminations. I would have arrested General Taylor on the receipt of his first letter, but acknowledging his merits as a soldier and feeling kindly disposed toward him, I passed it by. I have since borne and forborne with him with a self-control that has

* Not found.
† Inclosure K not found.

been sustained only by love of country and a desire of promoting her best interests. General Taylor's letters are improper and disrespectful. I have relieved him from command until the pleasure of Your Excellency can be known. General Taylor has spoken publicly of me in an improper way. I am credibly informed he has read his letters inclosed to citizens and others. The public interest required that one of us should be relieved. I shall attempt no refutation of General Taylor's statements. They are untrue throughout, and will generally be proved to be so by the simple narrative of events which I have forwarded Your Excellency. I will willingly, with no feeling of envy or abatement of interest in the service of my country, turn over my arduous duties and responsibilities to a successor.

Respectfully and faithfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 28, 1864.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 22d instant. After having placed Walker's division in a useless position, 70 miles from an enemy, and kept it idle for fifteen days after two days of victorious fighting, you use this as a reason for removing it from my command without previously knowing my situation and necessities, and contrary to the promise you made me at Shreveport. I dismissed the idea that Steele should move on Shreveport—Steele, who has already retreated over 100 miles and been completely foiled in his plans by General Price with his raw cavalry; or, if such a purpose could be rationally entertained, why not suppose that Banks would advance again from Alexandria? Can he not receive re-enforcements as well as Steele? The remainder of Banks' beaten army will now number double Steele's original strength, and he is accompanied by a fleet numbering more guns than any but a first-class naval power could put afloat. I cannot conceive what "political and military points of view" are to be obtained for the Confederacy by abandoning the certain destruction of an army of 30,000 men, backed by a huge fleet, to chase after a force of 10,000 in full retreat with over 100 miles the start. To accomplish this, to me, inscrutable purpose, I was prevented from following up my victories, allured to Shreveport by compliments on my readiness to serve under General Price, and there unexpectedly deprived of the bulk of my army. Since then not a day has passed without some portion of my small force being taken from me; not with my consent, but without even the usual official courtesy of sending the order through my hands. To-day brings news that you have ordered two batteries from me—batteries which are of priceless value to my plans. Two companies of cavalry, also, are taken. Since I left Shreveport and joined my little force near Natchitoches not an hour has passed unmarked by some good blow struck for the cause. Yet I am stripped hourly of troops. When I stated to you that I should fight a battle for Louisiana and your department no efforts were made to re-enforce me. The commands of Churchill and Par-

sons remained in Shreveport from the 24th of March till the 4th of April, and the only reason given is that they were without ammunition, which could have been distributed in two hours. You had 400 or 500 men detailed from Walker's and Mouton's divisions at the various and sundry bureaus in Shreveport. About to fight a battle against a force you considered too strong for the whole army under your command, I appealed in vain for these men; yet after the great battle had been won—when you deprived me of command—all the men of Walker's division were returned to their colors, and that, too, when you were marching after a retreating foe with re-enforcements equal to his original strength.

General Price, after foiling Steele, asked for only 4,000 infantry to complete his destruction. You take the field with 9,000 and are hourly drawing on me for more. Your communication closes by inviting me to Arkansas, where "I can place you on duty with increased rank, and would feel that I had left the conduct of operations in safe hands." What has occurred since you removed the conduct of operations from my hands after Pleasant Hill to change your opinion of my capacity? General, had you then left the conduct of operations in my hands Banks' army would have been destroyed before this; the fleet would have been in our hands or blown up by the enemy. The moral effect at the North and the shock to public credit would have seriously affected the war. By this time the little division of Polignac and Vincent's Louisiana cavalry would have been near the gates of New Orleans, prepared to confine the enemy to narrow limits; I would have been on the way with the bulk of my army to join Price at Camden, enriched with captured spoils of a great army and fleet; Steele would have been brushed from our path as a cobweb before the broom of a housemaid; we would have reached Saint Louis, our objective point, by midsummer and relieved the pressure from our suffering brethren in Virginia and Georgia. All this is as true as the living God and required no more than ordinary energy for its accomplishment. You might have had all the glory; I would have been contented to do the work either under you or General Price. Your confidential staff might have thrown the blame of every failure on me unrebuked, and claimed the credit of every success for you without contradiction. Not a word should have passed my lips when I heard it announced, as lately at Shreveport, that the signal victories of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill were triumphs of your skill and strategy—victories which your communications to me show you to have had as little connection as with the "army in Flanders."

You speak of placing me on duty with increased rank. Has the President been pleased to promote me? If so, I have received no notice of it. As I informed you at our late interview, I do not seek promotion. At the proper time, should the President think proper to reward any service of mine by giving me increased rank, I would be exceedingly grateful. Until that time comes I am content, for I have learned from my ancestors that it is the duty of a soldier so to conduct himself as to dignify titles and not derive importance from them. In a late communication you ask me for advice and stated that I had always given you a hearty support. This statement is but just. For more than a year I have supported you, even when your policy was fatally wrong, for I believed it my duty to give my commander a warm and earnest co-operation. The events of the past few weeks have so filled me with discouragement

that I much fear I cannot do my whole duty under your command, and I ask that you take steps to relieve me as soon as it can be done without injury to the service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, May 8, 1864.

Respectfully returned to General Taylor. This communication is not only improper but unjust. I cannot believe but that it was written in a moment of irritation or sickness.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Alexandria, May 24, 1864.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 17th instant. The condition of my health precludes the hope that I will be able to participate in a Missouri campaign. I scarcely believe I will be able for some time to come to conduct the affairs of my present command. The forces here are unable for the moment to engage in very active service in any quarter. The several commands are utterly worn down with marching and fighting. It is either too late or too early for a Missouri campaign. The propitious spring weather having been lost, we must await the fall. The intermediate time should be actively employed in preparations. A Missouri campaign can be made a great success and have an important bearing on the war in both its political and military aspects; but every energy of the department must be sternly directed to the success of the movement. The reliable infantry commands, viz, Walker's and Polignac's, have dwindled to nothing. These should be instantly filled up by enforcing the laws. Thomas' brigade has been doubtless exchanged, and I desire to place it immediately in the field under Polignac. I will undertake to force every man in Louisiana who owes military service to the Confederacy to enter the ranks within a month if I am relieved from the incubus of the Conscript Bureau and not interfered with by department headquarters. Every soldier put in the above divisions is worth ten in new organizations. The troops are now without shoes, and no movement can be made north until an adequate supply is furnished. The Clothing Bureau is liberal in promise and utterly barren in performance. A radical change is imperatively required. There are no horses for the artillery. More than a month since I was promised 200. Not one has reached me. To march to Missouri 500 would be wanted. They will never be supplied under the present system. The innumerable details should be done away with. All the departments can be furnished with laborers from the State troops of Texas and Louisiana, and all post guards, including that at Shreveport, can be furnished from the same sources. I am overhauling my

transportation, obtaining fresh mules from the river to replace those broken down, and trying to improve the condition of my cavalry horses. A very large supply of ammunition for artillery, especially for long-range guns (3-inch and 12-pounders), will be required, and we have none on hand. At least 15,000 stand of small-arms should be carried with the army to arm without delay the recruits. Once in Missouri large numbers will be received, and we should be prepared to arm them without delay. I have sent an officer to General Polk and Colonel Scott to perfect arrangements for crossing arms at once. The subsistence department should prepare hard bread night and day to accompany the army. By taking a few portable mills with the troops corn meal can be provided in most cases, so as to preserve the hard bread for emergencies. Large numbers of cattle will be required. These should be in good order and old cattle. Young cattle cannot endure long marches without losing too much flesh. While these arrangements are being made I will threaten New Orleans by placing my cavalry in the only region where it can be recruited on abundant forage, fill up the ranks of the Louisiana commands by a rigid and impartial enforcement of the laws, and prepare the road for a movement northward. To fill up the Texas organizations will require energy, and it will not be done if politicians are consulted.

The line of march from here will be via Columbia, cross the Ouachita, and ascend that stream and the Bartholomew until the alluvion of the Arkansas is struck east of Pine Bluff; thence by Crowley's Ridge and the valley of the White River to the Missouri line. This will lead the army through a country where more or less forage can be obtained, turn the enemy's positions in Arkansas and the Indian country, and keep constantly between him and the Mississippi River, whence he could draw re-enforcements and supplies. While General Price's infantry is resting at or near Camden his cavalry should operate to destroy and prevent the repair of the railroad between Little Rock and White River, and prevent the navigation of the Arkansas. Ten thousand cavalry and 8,000 infantry, with an abundant artillery, especially long-range guns, will be sufficient for the conquest of Missouri. All the Confederate troops in Texas should be hurried to the front as fast as they can be replaced by the State troops. In the advance the cavalry should be expected to do the work, the infantry following to secure positions and near enough to concentrate on any enemy that attempts to impede the march. A vigorous and determined advance would force back the present garrisons in Arkansas and the Indian country toward Missouri, on lines parallel to ours, and we could beat the column nearest us whenever necessary. The present Arkansas division under Churchill could be left in that State to hold it, get up supplies, and organize recruits. Notwithstanding his recent promotion, Churchill is no soldier and will never succeed in the field. I regard the troops intrusted to his command as almost lost to the service. He will assuredly defeat any plan dependent on his generalship, even in carrying out details. The campaign should not now be undertaken before the summer heats and rains are over. By crossing the Arkansas in the first week of August the months of September and October would find us in Missouri. The cool, dry weather of these months is most favorable to active operations in that latitude, and the fall pastures could be relied on to a certain extent. Once in the Missouri line the direction of march would depend on supplies, disposition of the inhabitants

toward the Confederacy, &c. On these subjects my information is too slight to enable me to express an opinion. As to the enemy having the initiative, we should force our dispositions upon him and compel him to subordinate his campaign to ours.

It is due the importance of this subject that I should respectfully but frankly express my opinion. No campaign dependent on the present system of bureauocracy will succeed. The rage for what is termed organization has proceeded so far that we are like a disproportioned garment—all ruffles and no shirt. The number of bureaus now existing in this department, and the army of employés attached to them, would do honor to St. Petersburg or Paris. Instead of making the general staff a mere adjunct to promote the efficiency of the little army in the field, the very reverse is the case. No captain nor colonel hears of one of his men falling in the influence of the Shreveport maelstrom but expects to lose him in the labyrinth of a bureau. The conscript laws are a snare and a delusion. Old regiments which have gained honor on many a well-fought field are reduced to skeletons, while new organizations are constantly filled up. Every courier from department headquarters brings a new batch of details to waste our slender ranks. Meanwhile the troops in the field are without pay, insufficiently supplied with food, and almost destitute of shoes and clothing. Requisitions for the most important articles upon which depend the fate of a campaign are lost in a mingled maze of red tape and circumlocution. These opinions are shared by every intelligent officer of this army, I will venture to assert, and require a speedy correction.

I repeat, my health precludes the hope that I can share in the Missouri campaign, and I hope the length at which I have gone into the subject will render the interview mentioned in your communication unnecessary. In conclusion, I have the honor to repeat the request previously made, that I may speedily be relieved from duty in this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Inclosure H.]

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, May 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

GENERAL: In your letter of the 18th [28th] instant [ultimo], reporting operations on lower Red River, you complain bitterly of the withdrawal of Walker's division, and say it has robbed your army of the just measure of its glory and the country of the most brilliant and complete success of the war. This most unjust complaint, though repeated, remained unnoticed. It was attributed to your ill-health, and that irritability of disposition which at Mansfield, on April 10, you regretted and begged me to bear with. I have again to-day received a communication from you, written in the same tone and spirit, which is objectionable and improper. Walker's division was detached from your command, and with Churchill and Parsons moved against Steele in accordance with the plan of campaign expressed in my official communications and explained in my interview with you at Mansfield. You then distinctly expressed your approval

of the movement. You selected the commands that were to remain and those that were to be detached. You desired that Polignac should be left to push the retreating army of Banks, while you took command of the column which marched against Steele. The fruits of your victory at Mansfield were secured by the march of that column. The complete success of the campaign was determined by the overthrow of Steele at Jenkins' Ferry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Alexandria, June 5, 1864.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of May 26. You are mistaken in supposing that my communications were intended as complaints. I have no complaints to make. My communications were statements of facts, necessary, in my judgment, to the proper understanding of the campaign. I have not read the story of Gil Blas and the Archbishop to so little purpose as not to know that truth is often considered "objectionable by superiors," but I have not drawn the moral that it is therefore "improper in subordinates to state it." The "regrets" I expressed at Mansfield on May [April] 10 were drawn forth by your expressions of friendship for me, and assurances that you had given me all the support and assistance in your power. From no man living have I ever begged an indulgence for my acts, whether personal or official.

So far from expressing my approbation of the movement of Walker, Parsons, and Churchill against Steele, I stated to you on May [April] 13 at Mansfield, where you had come because I had written to request permission to follow up my victories, that Steele must inevitably retreat; that every step he advanced but insured his destruction; that the success of Maxey at Poison Springs made assurance doubly sure; that the auxiliary column must retreat, the main one having been routed. You replied that Steele "was bold to rashness," and that he would not hear of Banks' defeat, and insisted that the movement be made, proposing to select the troops from my command. It was then that I desired to accompany the troops, naming the divisions above mentioned and expressing my entire willingness to serve under General Price and give him all the assistance in my power. At the same time I expressed my conviction that Steele would retreat, and understood from you most distinctly that in this event my movement northward would stop at once. My offer to serve under General Price drew from you many compliments; yet at that very time, as I subsequently learned, an order had been issued from your headquarters directing my chief quartermaster to send some captured wagons, as you intended to take the field. You permitted me to move 40 miles to Shreveport, leave my command, and make all my arrangements for a campaign which you had determined I was not to make. From the 13th to the night of the 15th, I remained under this delusion, which you by a word could have dispelled. Arrived at Shreveport, I found myself deprived of com-

mand, and that you had known for some time of Steele's retreat. I repeated the arguments against the movement, but was overruled. In justification of your policy you observed that it was an affair of a few days, and in answer to my inquiry stated positively that Walker's division was not to be removed from my command. You state that the fruits of the victory of Mansfield were secured by the march of the column against Steele, and that the complete success of the campaign was determined by his overthrow at Jenkins' Ferry. After a series of engagements Banks was driven into his works at Alexandria on April 28, two days before the fight at Jenkins' Ferry, and on the day of that fight the river was completely blockaded below Alexandria against both transports and gun-boats. I am at a loss to conceive what connection the fruits of Mansfield have with the fight at Jenkins' Ferry. Some time before this fight you directed Walker to report to me, but changed your mind and ordered him to Camden. Immediately after the fight you ordered Walker and Churchill and Parsons to join me, which shows that even in your opinion the Red River was the theater of events.

At Jenkins' Ferry you attacked with your infantry alone. Nearly 8,000 men were not used at all, either in the fight or after it. This surplus of troops might well have enabled you to leave Walker with me. At Jenkins' Ferry you lost more heavily in killed and wounded than the enemy. This appears from the official report of Steele, confirmed by our officers who were present. You lost two pieces of artillery, which the enemy did not carry off because he had previously been deprived of means of transportation by Maxey and Fagan. He burned his pontoon for the same reason, and because after crossing the Saline he had no further use for it. He marched to Little Rock after the fight entirely unmolested. He would unquestionably have gone there had the fight never occurred. We do not to-day hold one foot more of Arkansas than if Jenkins' Ferry had never been, and we have a jaded army and 1,000 less soldiers. How, then, was the "complete success of the campaign determined by Steele's overthrow at Jenkins' Ferry?" In truth, the campaign as a whole has been a hideous failure. The fruits of Mansfield have been turned to dust and ashes. Louisiana, from Natchitoches to the Gulf, is a howling wilderness and her people are starving. Arkansas is probably as great a sufferer. In both States abolition conventions are sitting to overthrow their system of labor. The remains of Banks' army have already gone to join Grant or Sherman, and may turn the scale against our overmatched brethren in Virginia and Georgia.

On April 24 [23] the affair of Monett's Ferry took place. The Federals admit that a few hours' more delay would have led to the destruction of their army. Admiral Porter in his official report states this army to be 35,000 strong. The destruction of the army would have led, of necessity, to the destruction of the fleet. These advantages were all thrown away, to the utter destruction of the best interests of the country, and in their place we have Jenkins' Ferry. Our material of war is exhausted, our men are broken down with long marches from Red River to Arkansas and from Arkansas back to Red River. About 1,000 of the best officers and men were sacrificed and no result attained. The roads to Saint Louis and New Orleans should now be open to us. Your strategy has riveted the fetters on both. At Jenkins' Ferry the tactical skill which carried Churchill's, Parsons', and Walker's divisions successively into the fight after its predecessor had been driven back, and which [you] failed to use at all, either in the fight or in a pursuit, a force of over

7,000 cavalry, succeeded the strategy which declined the capture of Banks' army and Porter's fleet to march after the comparatively insignificant force of Steele. The same regard for duty which led me to throw myself between you and popular indignation and quietly take the blame of your errors compels me to tell you the truth, however objectionable to you. The grave errors you have committed in the recent campaign may be repeated if the unhappy consequences are not kept before you. After the desire to serve my country, I have none more ardent than to be relieved from longer serving under your command.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

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TUPELO, *July* 16, 1864.

General E. K. SMITH or
Major-General WALKER,
Trans-Mississippi (*care Commanding Officer, Clinton, La.*):

The President instructs me to say the enemy is reported to have withdrawn his main force [from] Louisiana to attack Mobile and operate east of Mississippi River; that under such circumstances it was expected of you that you would promptly aid by sending troops to defeat the plans of the enemy as soon as discovered. There is no doubt the enemy is moving against Mobile or some point east of the Mississippi.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

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MONTGOMERY, *July* 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General LIDDELL:

Send following dispatch across the Mississippi by a reliable officer, with instructions to deliver it either to General Smith, Taylor, Walker, or Polignac:

COLUMBUS, GA., *July* 22, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. S. D. LEE:

Inform General E. K. Smith that the President orders a prompt movement of Lieutenant-General Taylor and the infantry of his corps to cross the Mississippi. Such other infantry as can be spared by General Smith will follow as soon as possible. General Taylor, on reaching this side Mississippi, will assume command of the department.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

—

MONTGOMERY, *July* 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General LIDDELL:

Send this dispatch also:

General SMITH, TAYLOR, WALKER, or POLIGNAC:

The movement of troops ordered by the President should be executed with the least possible delay. If the trains for the troops cannot be brought over the horses, mules, and harness should be brought at all events. I will have supplies collected for your troops on this side the Mississippi, but you had better send commissaries ahead.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. HDQRS. TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPT., *Shreveport, La., April* 19, 1864.

God has blessed our arms with signal victories at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. The general commanding finds it an appropriate occasion to pay a well-merited tribute to the endurance and valor of the troops engaged in these battles. Collected from remote points—from Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas—after long and tedious marches, their combined courage has gained on the soil of Louisiana the patriot soldier's highest reward—victory. They have driven in confused flight from the battle-field the boastful minions of despotism. In the name of a grateful people I thank them for this splendid result. While we mourn for the glorious dead and sympathize with the heroic wounded, let us take courage for the future. By prompt obedience to orders and patient endurance we will be enabled to repeat this great achievement whenever the enemy shall advance in force against any part of the Trans-Mississippi Department. When the soldiers of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas stand together in battle, with the blessing of God we confidently expect victory. The names of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill will be inscribed on the colors of the regiments engaged in these battles.

By command of General E. Kirby Smith:

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, Ark., May 3, 1864.

Soldiers of the Trans-Mississippi Department:

Our arms in Louisiana have again been crowned with success. Victorious at Cloutierville, we have captured a gun-boat and transports, and driven the enemy demoralized and retreating within the shelter of his intrenchments at Alexandria. No meed of praise is too great for that gallant little army and its skillful and energetic chief. To his glorious victories at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, under Providence, is the success of this campaign in a great measure due.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, Ark., May 3, 1864.

Soldiers of the Trans-Mississippi Department:

Once more in the hour of victory we are called upon to mourn the heroic dead. Generals W. R. Scurry and Horace Randal have fallen upon the field of honor. At Jenkins' Ferry they offered themselves up precious victims on the altar of liberty. Mouton and Green are gone; Scurry and Randal have followed on the same glorious path. Be it ours to emulate their virtues and valor, and to act as men not unworthy to associate with such heroes. The colors of their respective brigades will be draped in mourning for thirty days.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Camden, Ark., May 4, 1864.

Soldiers of the Trans-Mississippi Department:

The campaign inaugurated at Mansfield on the day of national fast and supplication has, under Providence, been crowned with most glorious and brilliant successes. You have defeated a foe three times your own. The fields of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Cloutierville, Poison Springs, Marks' Mills, and Jenkins' Ferry attest your devotion. Eight thousand killed and wounded, 6,000 prisoners, 34 pieces of artillery, 1,200 wagons, 1 gun-boat, and 3 transports are already the fruits of your victories. The path of glory is still open to you; permanent security to your homes before you. Call together your comrades, and shoulder to shoulder we will yet free the soil of our beloved country from the invader's footsteps. Soldiers of Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, and Louisiana, you have the thanks of a grateful people. Your living will be respected; your dead honored and revered.

E. KIRBY SMITH,
General.

No. 94.

*Narrative of Lieut. Edward Cunningham, Aide-de-Camp and Chief of Artillery.**

SHREVEPORT, LA., *June* 27, 1864.

MY DEAR UNCLE: I stated in my letter to you, written about two weeks since, that I would inclose some orders and an address from General Taylor to his troops. I neglected to do so at that time, but send them now. General Taylor has been relieved from the command of the District of West Louisiana and ordered to Natchitoches, there to await the pleasure of the President. The circumstances under which he was relieved it is not my business to tell. All that is generally known is that General Taylor requested to be relieved. I do not wish to be regarded as writing in a mischief-making or partisan spirit. An effort will very probably be made by General Taylor's friends at Richmond to excite dissatisfaction against General Smith, or even to have him relieved from command. As they will no doubt take issue on the conduct of the campaign, rather than directly upon any point of difference which may exist between General Smith and General Taylor, I shall endeavor to give you an account of the course of events, together with the reasons, as far as I understand them, for which the principal movements of troops were made. This explanation may enable you to appreciate correctly any discussions of this subject which may come under your notice. Here let me say you cannot depend upon the truth of many statements you may hear. General Taylor's friends will doubtless get their information from him and those around him here, among whom there is a disposition to criticise, misrepresent, and condemn everything done by or connected with General Smith. General Taylor is a very bad man. You understand that I speak deliberately senti-

* This document was captured *in transitu* and was forwarded to the U. S. War Department by General Canby.

ments I have held with good reason for more than twelve months, but which for obvious reasons I have never made known except to General Smith and some of his friends, who could see as much as I. I have been as cautious and particular as I know a person occupying my position should be about such matters.

About the 1st of February last it became evident, from the movements of the enemy at New Orleans, Little Rock, and Fort Smith, that a combined offensive movement was preparing against the Trans-Mississippi Department. The Red River Valley was to be the theater of operations. This appeared both from the enemy's movements and from reports from his lines. The Northern papers stated that Sherman's force, which had just returned from its expedition through Mississippi, would also be sent for a time to this side of the river, and that Sherman, Banks, and Steele would make a combined movement on Shreveport. Accordingly, every preparation was made for concentrating the troops. Green's division of cavalry was ordered from the Texas coast to Alexandria, while depots of subsistence and forage were placed on the important lines connecting Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. Troops of all arms were ordered to be mobilized as well as possible and held in readiness to move with celerity to any point where they might be needed. This was a critical juncture. It was expected that Sherman would move from Vicksburg or Natchez. Instead of that, however, he sent only two divisions (one of the Sixteenth and one of the Seventeenth, in all about 10,000 men) to the mouth of Red River. From that point this command moved to De Russy, when it again took transports and joined Banks at Alexandria on March 18. General A. J. Smith commanded the two divisions. It preceded Banks three or four days. It landed at Simsport March 12. At that time the distribution of our force was as follows: In Louisiana General Taylor had two divisions of infantry and 1,500 or 2,000 cavalry in detachments; Walker's division, consisting of Randal's, Waul's, and Scurry's brigades, was posted from Fort De Russy down the Bayou De Glaize to Simsport; Mouton's division, consisting of Polignac's and Gray's brigades, was divided—one brigade near Alexandria and the other on its way to Alexandria from Trinity, the junction of the Ouachita, Little, and Tensas Rivers. Banks was organizing his expedition at Berwick Bay. Colonel Vincent, with the Second Louisiana Cavalry and a battery, was near Opelousas watching him. General Liddell, with a brigade of cavalry and several batteries, was near Monroe watching the approaches from Natchez and Vicksburg. Green's cavalry, although ordered to move two weeks before this, did not leave the vicinity of Hempstead, Tex., till March 15, and did not reach General Taylor till between the 1st and 5th of April. The strength of the column which landed at Simsport was, as it usually is, overestimated. General Walker, whose force compared to it as four to ten, fell back up the Bayou De Glaize to a point near Fort De Russy, and thence moved to Evergreen, about 30 miles south of Alexandria, where he was joined by General Taylor with Mouton's division. Meanwhile General Walker had left the garrison at Fort De Russy to its fate, as he considered it impossible, from the nature of the ground and the preponderance of the enemy's force, to cover or support the place. It fell with its garrison on March 14, by a land attack. General Taylor estimated the strength of this column at 23,000 men. Immediately after the fall of Fort De Russy the enemy occupied Alexandria. General Taylor was thrown off into the pine

hills and took the road leading up Red River. He halted a short time at McNutt's Hill, 12 miles above Alexandria, but soon moved 18 miles farther back to Carroll Jones' with his infantry. Meanwhile Banks, with 25,000 men of all arms, drove Vincent up the Teche and joined Smith at Alexandria about March 18. Every exertion was made to hurry up Green's cavalry from Texas, but it moved very slowly and did not all reach General Taylor till about April 5. General Liddell was ordered down into the country north and east of Alexandria, between the Red and Ouachita Rivers, to annoy the enemy's transports passing.

On March 21, the enemy came out from Alexandria and surprised the Second Louisiana Cavalry, capturing most of that regiment, together with Edgar's four-gun battery. This force constituted our rear guard. General Taylor then fell rapidly back to the vicinity of Natchitoches. After remaining ten or twelve days in Alexandria Banks moved slowly up in pursuit. He met with no serious resistance till the battle of Mansfield. In Arkansas General Price had his infantry near Spring Hill, 15 miles from Washington and 60 from Camden, while the cavalry under General Marmaduke held the line of the Ouachita, scouring the country in front to within 25 miles of Little Rock, where Steele had for some time been preparing for an advance. A brigade of cavalry under General Cabell was posted between Washington and Paraclifta in observation of the enemy, about 5,000 strong, at Fort Smith, and guarding the approaches east of the Arkansas line, while General Maxey, with two brigades of cavalry, watched those leading through the Indian Territory to North Texas.

On March 23, Steele moved out from Little Rock with about 8,000 men. On the 21st, Thayer left Fort Smith with about 3,000. They effected a junction at Arkadelphia about the 31st. General Cabell was ordered to General Marmaduke. The cavalry was in two divisions, one under Marmaduke and one under Fagan. General Maxey was ordered with all of his force, except such as was needed to prevent small raids, to hold himself at Laynesport, in the extreme southeast corner of the Indian Territory, so as to support General Price and operate on his left should he be forced back by Steele. Steele's plan was to move by Washington to Red River, cross near Fulton, and destroy the stores and shops at Jefferson and Marshall, taking us in rear while we operated against Banks, or giving the latter an opportunity of getting our communications should we move against Steele. Steele moved very slowly and cautiously, harassed by our cavalry, who impeded his march at every step. He was about sixteen days moving from Camden to Prairie D'Ane, a distance of about 100 miles. Our object was to delay a general engagement until the two columns of the enemy, or one of them, should approach sufficiently near Shreveport, our point of concentration, to enable us to strike with as much as possible of our force one of the two without abandoning our depots or communications to the other. Our important points were Shreveport, Jefferson, and Marshall—the last a vital point. Accordingly, Price's old division, now divided into Parsons' (Missouri) and Churchill's (Arkansas) divisions, was ordered to Shreveport, where it arrived on the 24th. At this time Banks was at Natchitoches and Steele near Little Rock, in view, both advancing, but Steele making slow progress, our cavalry disputing his advance stubbornly. Besides, he was obliged to haul all of his forage from Little Rock and to guard his trains closely. Thus Banks was 98 and Steele 200 miles from Shreveport. Banks

continued to advance; General Taylor fell back before him. On April 6, his advance was at Pleasant Hill; General Taylor was at Mansfield, where the roads fork to Marshall and Shreveport. Churchill's and Parsons' divisions were sent to him. They reached Mansfield the night of the 8th. Green's cavalry had also arrived, having been obliged to make a long detour to get in front of the enemy. At 4 o'clock on the evening of the 8th, General Mouton, without the order or knowledge of General Taylor, attacked and repulsed the Thirteenth Army Corps and Cavalry Division, the advance of the enemy, from 8,000 to 10,000 strong, 3 miles south of Mansfield. The first news brought to General Taylor of the fight was, as I am informed, that General Mouton had attacked the enemy and been killed. Walker's and Green's divisions were then put into action, when the engagement became a running fight for 4 or 5 miles, our men double-quicking a considerable portion of the way.

The enemy got into a stampede and our men rushed after them pell-mell through the woods till dark. Four or five of their light batteries and the train of the Cavalry Division were in front. As soon as the fight commenced these vehicles blocked up the road, which was very narrow and ran through a thick pine woods. Most of the horses were carried off and the guns and wagons were left in our hands. Only one of their batteries was brought into action. About night, the Thirteenth Corps and the cavalry having been driven back about 4 miles, the Nineteenth Army Corps, General Franklin commanding, came up, and for awhile checked our advance, but it gave way also after a little, and was driven back some half a mile, when it became too dark for us to pursue farther. The enemy continued his retreat during the night. Our loss was about 1,000 killed and wounded; that of the enemy greater. He also lost 150 wagons, 22 pieces of artillery, and 1,800 prisoners. At this time General A. J. Smith, with one division of the Sixteenth and one of the Seventeenth Corps, was at Natchitoches. From Shreveport it is 42 miles to Mansfield, 65 miles to Pleasant Hill, and 98 to Natchitoches. On the night of the 8th, Churchill and Parsons came up. The pursuit was resumed at daylight on the 9th. In the evening the enemy was found in line of battle at Pleasant Hill, A. J. Smith, who had come up from Natchitoches, on the left, Franklin (Nineteenth Corps) on the right, the whole about 24,000. The Thirteenth Corps had gone on to Natchitoches. The enemy's right was in woods, his left in open fields. Walker and Polignac (commanding Mouton's division) attacked on our left, Parsons and Churchill on our right. The charge of the Arkansas and Missouri troops was dashing. On their left the enemy had five brigades and several batteries. Part of their infantry was in advance of the artillery and part in rear for a support. The Missouri division was to have been supported on the left by Scurry's brigade (Walker's extreme right), but instead of cooperating the two went into action separately, and were whipped in detail. The Missouri division drove back the enemy's line in its front, and came up within 50 yards of their batteries, but having no support on their left, were flanked by the enemy from that direction, and meeting a heavy fire from the supporting force, retreated in confusion. About the time they had gotten away from the enemy, who showed no disposition to follow, Scurry's brigade came up and was repulsed after having driven back the enemy's line in his front a quarter of a mile. The enemy followed him some distance, capturing several hundred prisoners. Night put a stop to the fight,

Churchill's, Parsons', and most of Walker's command being in great confusion. On our left Walker and Polignac had rather the advantage of the enemy without gaining any material results. Our troops were withdrawn. Polignac remained about 2 miles from the field. Walker, Churchill, and Parsons, with all the cavalry except one brigade, moved back 6 miles, the nearest point at which there was sufficient water. Neither our cavalry nor that of the enemy did anything in this fight.

The next morning, after sunrise, very much to our surprise, we learned that the enemy had retreated during the night. The cavalry was immediately sent in pursuit, while the infantry was taken back to Mansfield for organization, rest, and supplies. The enemy evidently considered himself whipped. He ought to know. Independently of the condition of the troops after the fight, the want of supplies below Mansfield and of transportation to haul them rendered immediate pursuit with our whole force impossible. Below Mansfield all was a howling wilderness. The only way in which a large body of troops there could be supplied was by the river, which at this time was occupied by the gun-boats of the enemy up to within 30 miles of Shreveport. Furthermore, the enemy's land force, even though it should be demoralized, had at all times the guns of their fleet, upward of one hundred in number, for a protection. At best our chase, had we been able to advance, would have wound up at the Mississippi, with that barrier to our farther progress, and with nothing more accomplished than would be done by the enemy himself if let alone. A campaign against New Orleans, had there been no enemy in the country besides Banks, would have been utter madness. On the other hand, Steele, with 11,000 men, was moving on Camden, from the fortifications at which point he could, in perfect security from our cavalry, watch our operations, and if an opportunity offered, strike at Jefferson, Marshall, or Shreveport. To leave him in this position, and transfer all our troops except our cavalry left in Arkansas to Lower Louisiana, would be to jeopardize our very salvation. Northward great results would follow Steele's signal defeat. The regaining of the Arkansas Valley and the breaking up of the Yankee State government, as well as having the route to Missouri open, were considerations of great importance. These results accomplished, the numerical strength of our armies might soon be doubled. For these reasons General Smith determined to move against Steele, and accordingly Walker's, Parsons', and Churchill's divisions were put in motion.

Here is the point: General Taylor and his friends assert with the most confident assurance that had he been allowed to "follow up his victory" the utter destruction of Banks and Porter would have been the result. Perhaps the exact force of this argument can be appreciated only by persons who saw General Taylor's victorious army just after it had attempted to destroy a part of General Banks' force without the fleet to support it; but still the idea of our annihilating in their intrenchments a force three-fourths of which we had failed to whip in open fight, and of transporting over a distance of 250 miles supplies we had been unable to haul 65 miles. Such projects must appear in their true light to any sensible person who looks calmly and impartially into the matter. It was impossible for the enemy to maintain permanently at Natchitoches a force sufficient to hold the place. Red River must soon fall, and supplies would then have to be hauled from Simsport. The country would supply

scarcely anything. General Taylor was left in command of the cavalry and Polignac's division to watch and pursue the enemy.

Parsons, Churchill, and Walker arrived at Shreveport on April 16, en route for Camden. Walker moved on the right via Minden, Parsons in the center via Benton, and Churchill on the left, following Red River 35 miles up and then turning to the right, passing near Magnolia. Walker's division was halted 20 miles beyond Minden on the reception of information from General Taylor that the enemy was intrenching at Natchitoches and had thrown two pontoon bridges across the Red River at Grand Ecore, the steam-boat landing for that place. In this position (48 miles from Shreveport, 115 from Natchitoches, and 66 from Camden) General Walker was in a good attitude to meet any movement of Banks in the direction of the Ouachita or against Shreveport, or any movement of Steele in the direction of Red River. It was thought possible Banks and Steele might endeavor to effect a junction east of Shreveport, which accomplished, we could have but little hope of resisting their united strength. Walker remained in this position till the enemy evacuated Grand Ecore and retreated south with his land and naval forces. The bridge had been thrown across Red River to enable the enemy's infantry to protect his transports and gun-boats from General Liddell's force, which had moved up opposite to them and inflicted considerable loss upon them, destroying one or two boats. Five thousand or 6,000 men were thrown to the north side, but did not go far from the river. Parsons and Churchill had been held about 25 miles from Camden, ready to move upon that place or in the direction of Minden, as occasion might require.

Steele had gone into our works at Camden with his whole force on the 18th. General Price had been instructed to throw his cavalry into them before Steele's arrival if he felt sure of holding the position, but not to put a force there to be sacrificed. He was instructed at all events to send at least a brigade of cavalry to the north side of the Ouachita for the purpose of cutting off the enemy's supplies from Little Rock and Pine Bluff. Neither direction was followed.

On April 18, Generals Maxey and Marmaduke had fought the enemy (a foraging party about 2,500 strong) at Poison Springs, 12 miles from Camden, dispersing the whole force and capturing a few prisoners, 212 wagons and teams, with 4 pieces of artillery. It was so close to the enemy's main body that we did not have time or opportunity to pick up the prisoners who dispersed in the woods, but contented ourselves with hauling off the artillery and train.

When General Smith arrived at General Price's headquarters and ascertained that no cavalry had been thrown across the Ouachita he dispatched General Fagan with 3,500 men to go, if possible, into Little Rock and Pine Bluff and destroy the depots at those points. The garrisons at both places were understood to be small. General Fagan did not accomplish this great object. He could not get his artillery, of which he had four pieces, across the Saline River at the point where he attempted to cross. On the 23d or 24th [25th], he encountered a force of the enemy about 1,500 strong, in charge of a train at Marks' Mills, on the west side of the Ouachita. He succeeded in capturing all the infantry (1,300); the cavalry (200) escaped. He also captured a four-gun battery and 200 wagons and teams, besides 100 which were burned during the fight. Meanwhile our forces were drawn close around Camden. The works, which had been constructed by us last year, were such as to make it very doubtful

whether we could carry the place by assault. Every exertion was made to ascertain the exact amount of subsistence the enemy had, in the hope that he might be starved out and compelled to retreat. A pontoon train had started from Shreveport, but most unfortunately through some misconception of orders was turned back. On the night of the 26th, the enemy, having learned of the capture of his train, evacuated Camden. His rear guard left the place at 4 a. m. on the 27th. Our advance entered at 7. It took us all day and all night to construct a bridge over which the infantry could pass. At sunrise on the morning of the 28th, the troops commenced crossing. The enemy had twenty-six hours' start of us. On the night of the 29th, the head of our infantry was at Tulip, 14 miles from the Saline, at Jenkins' Ferry, and 40 miles from Camden. A brigade of our cavalry was at the Bottom of the Saline, 3 miles from the river. Our rear was at Princeton, 22 miles from Jenkins' Ferry and 32 miles from Camden. The rear of the enemy's column had passed Tulip at 8 o'clock that morning. The Saline Bottom was, however, a quagmire 5 miles wide, and it was possible his trains had not been gotten over. We had but little expectation of getting a fight. Our pontoon train had not come up, and even with it we could not cross the river in face of the enemy. General Fagan had not been heard from for some days. It was hoped he would hear of Steele's retreat and throw himself in his front, thus giving us an opportunity of catching up and attacking him in rear. Here a dispatch was received stating that he (Fagan), after vainly endeavoring to cross the Saline at points lower down, had gone up near Arkadelphia for forage and would cross the Saline at Benton. He had not learned of Steele's retreat. In a vague hope of being able to overtake the enemy's rear guard next morning the troops were rested from dark till 1 o'clock, Churchill and Parsons at Tulip, Walker at Princeton, 8 miles to the rear. At 1 o'clock the column moved forward through deep mud, rain coming down in torrents. At daylight the two divisions were up with the cavalry advance, having marched 52 miles in forty-six hours. Skirmishing commenced and the enemy's pickets were driven in. We could hardly believe there was any large force of the enemy on our side of the river. The firing becoming more general, Churchill's division was thrown forward. I give you a rough sketch* of the ground. Dockery's brigade was thrown to the left of a bayou which ran parallel with and very close to the road by which we advanced. It was pushed down toward the Saline, while the other part of the division moved down on the right side. The enemy was soon found in force and Parsons' division was put into action on Churchill's right.

Word was sent back to General Walker to hurry one brigade of his division forward on the road we had come, and to take the other two brigades by a road which turns off to the right 5 miles from the Saline, and was said by our scouts to lead to the enemy's left flank. The battle-field was a boggy marsh covered with timber and considerable undergrowth. The enemy were concealed by the undergrowth and fallen logs, so that our men could scarcely see them at all. Scurry's and Randal's brigades, of Walker's division, moved by the road leading toward the enemy's left. Waul's brigade was held in reserve in rear of Churchill and Parsons. The cavalry brigade was mostly thrown forward as skirmishers. Our troops, I regret to say, did not fight well. Before Walker reached the enemy

* Not found.

Parsons' and Churchill's divisions were driven back. They got in confusion and it was impossible for their officers, most of whom are of no earthly account, to do anything with them. The enemy showed little disposition to follow. As soon as Walker's guns were heard off to our right Waul's brigade was pushed forward to support his left, Parsons' division moving in its rear as a support. Waul soon became engaged. The firing was very heavy for about an hour. Our men fired very wildly. Waul's right was slightly overlapped by Walker's left. Waul's troops were repulsed. Randal, in the center, and Scurry, on the right, held their ground, though their troops were in great disorder. Parsons' division did not support Waul as it was intended, but moved somewhere to the right of our line and did no more fighting.

In about an hour from the time Waul's brigade went into action the enemy withdrew along their whole line. Our troops did not follow immediately. They were in great disorder. Churchill's men had been again collected and skirmishers were thrown forward. An hour and a half afterward, when our advance reached the river, about 2 miles from the battle-ground, the enemy had crossed. They did not take up their pontoon bridge, but punched holes in the boats and left the wagons on this side of the river. I cannot say to which side the victory, as far as the fighting goes, belongs. The forces engaged were about equal. Their severely wounded were left on the field and just on the other side of the river. They compare to our severely wounded as three to two. We lost about 800 killed and wounded; I suppose that of the enemy to be about 1,200. We did not cross the Saline, for two reasons: First, our men had nothing to eat. The rations issued to them were out the night of the battle and our wagons had not come up, being delayed at Camden by the non-arrival of the pontoon train. Secondly, the incessant rains had so swelled the Saline that it was for four or five days after the next day (which was the earliest we could for the first reason cross) 2 or 3 miles wide, spreading over its bottom in all directions. To campaign permanently beyond the Saline without the establishment of depots of supplies was utterly impossible. When our cavalry got across they found a good many wagons stuck in the mud on the other side. General Fagan, hearing the true state of things while near Arkadelphia the evening before the fight, hurried up to join us. He reached Jenkins' Ferry just after the fight, which closed between 12 and 2 o'clock. He failed to accomplish his mission through circumstances perhaps over which he had no control. The destruction of the stores at Little Rock and Pine Bluff would have ruined the enemy. During this time General Taylor had followed the enemy up very vigorously, capturing and destroying three gun-boats and six or eight transports. He insisted that with Walker's, Parsons', and Churchill's divisions he could overwhelm Banks, who was now at Alexandria assisting Porter, who was trying to get his gun-boats over the falls. The infantry in Arkansas was immediately put in motion to him, as it seemed possible the enemy might be compelled to abandon or destroy his fleet. Unfortunately for us he built a dam across Red River, by the aid of which, together with a slight rise, he succeeded in getting all his boats off before our troops arrived in force. General Taylor had thrown his forces all around the place and had entirely cut off communication with the river below. There was some severe skirmishing between the enemy and our cavalry, but the latter were always compelled to retire when the enemy came out in heavy force. It was on the river

near Fort De Russy that our cavalry captured the two gun-boats above referred to. The Eastport, one of the finest iron-clads in the Western waters, was sunk by the enemy about 50 miles above Alexandria, where she had gotten fast aground. While they were at Alexandria our boats went constantly down as far as Cotile, carrying subsistence and forage. The enemy showed less enterprise than I have ever known them evince. Banks is clearly no commander. Once or twice while he was at Alexandria the posture of our force was such that by a short and comparatively safe movement of 10,000 men he might have insured beyond peradventure the capture of Polignac's division. He must have been in the main aware of the position and strength of our force. Along with the hope of accomplishing his main purpose, he seems to have given up all desire to acquit himself with any credit.

The Yankees left Alexandria about May [13], after burning two-thirds of the town. Whether it was their intention to burn the whole place, or only some of the public buildings, warehouses, &c., does not clearly appear. My opinion is they did not intend total destruction. The wind was very high and the fire could not be managed. A considerable quantity of stores was destroyed. The gun-boats took off some of their armor to lighten them, and ten or twelve heavy guns were burst on the river bank. General Taylor fought them at Moreauville three or four hours and then drew off his force, which was between them and Simsport. Following up their retreat he received a severe repulse at Yellow Bayou, 6 miles from Simsport, from some new troops brought from the Texas coast. This fight occurred on [May 18], and virtually closed the campaign. Before being relieved from command General Taylor had given up his idea of a campaign toward New Orleans, and had ordered all of his infantry back to the vicinity of Alexandria, there to rest and prepare for future operations.

I have given you as clearly as I am able the details of this campaign. I doubt if they will be interesting to you, in view of the great events now transpiring in Virginia and Georgia; but, as I have said, they are data from which you may judge the merits of a case which I am sure will not long fail to be discussed at Richmond. General Taylor has warm supporters there—men who will not be deterred from carrying their point by any scruples of honor or veracity. General Smith's policy and motives, as well as many facts connected with his operations, will be misrepresented. It will doubtless be asserted in the East, as it has already been here, that the movement of troops from Louisiana to Arkansas after the battle of Pleasant Hill was against General Taylor's views and protest. On this point I need only say that General Smith told me immediately after our return from Mansfield, where the decision was made, that General Taylor approved of his plan of moving immediately against Steele. He even selected the troops he wished to go. The plan at first was that he should accompany them. Certainly I never heard a word of his disapproval of the movement until he arrived at Shreveport on his way to Arkansas, and it was determined that he should remain in Louisiana. I have not a shadow of doubt that all the subsequent criticisms and complaints of himself and friends are entirely the results of pique. There seems to be among them a settled determination to place to his credit all the favorable contingencies that might have happened had operations been differently conducted. People will not be content to let well enough alone. They cannot

be made to understand that an enemy may sometimes be defeated, but that the most consummate skill cannot insure the capture of his whole force. Nowadays we rarely hear of a fight in which our men have conducted themselves respectably but that there comes along some account of our having the enemy hemmed, cut off, or already bagged. Even sensible men will indulge and encourage this morbid appetite for the incredible. Hence it follows that frequently after a campaign in which the odds have been greatly against us, and during which the mass of the people exposed have been hopeless of the result and ready to take the oath of allegiance to the enemy, these very people, whose miserable cowardice and want of determination are a disgrace to a good cause, find it unaccountable—perfectly outrageous—that the Yankees were not all destroyed. Utter annihilation is generally the only thing that will at all suffice for these pseudo-savage "stay-at-homes."

I do not think General Smith's late campaign admits a well-grounded criticism. All turns upon a comparison of the objects to be gained by operating against Banks or Steele after Pleasant Hill. That it was impossible for us to pursue Banks immediately—under four or five days—cannot be gainsaid. It was impossible because we did not have transportation for supplies, and impossible because we had been beaten, demoralized, paralyzed in the fight of the 9th. One week was the shortest time in which we could put ourselves before the enemy at Natchitoches. By that time he had constructed strong works in a naturally strong position. Could we, weakened by the loss of 2,500 men and demoralized by defeat, beat the enemy here in a fortified position with a force superior to ours as seven to four? It would seem that pursuit with a small force of men to harass the enemy constantly was more effective than would have been the clumsy and slow pursuit of a larger force destitute of supplies. We were not strong enough to drive the enemy from his position, and if he retreated of his own accord we might as well be actively employed elsewhere—near enough all the time to meet any advance movement of his. A comparison can hardly be instituted between the results flowing from the defeat of Banks and that of Steele. The former rested on his gun-boats. His retreat was comparatively secure, and our pursuit beyond a certain point impossible. Steele was more than 200 miles from Helena, his permanent base of operations and supplies. His communications were through an open pine country, where his trains could be attacked at any point, and with nothing to protect him from being literally devoured by our cavalry could we once break his lines.

The regaining of the capital of the State and the breaking up of the new State government would give us perhaps 8,000 or 10,000 men, while with Steele back upon the Mississippi or his force destroyed our cavalry might now be in Missouri. Unfortunately in this department the immense tracts of desert country and the want of transportation sufficient to carry supplies over them places narrow limits to the possible achievements of our troops, and distance becomes one of the principal elements in a military problem. I contend that our failure to break up Steele's force, if not to capture or destroy it, resulted from an accident which could not be foreseen and had nothing to do with the conception of the plans—I mean General Fagan not putting himself in Steele's front between the Ouachita and the Saline. Even had our pontoon arrived in time we would most probably have fought him on fair ground and signally

defeated him. On the other hand, had we become seriously involved with Banks on lower Red River Steele might have advanced and seized Shreveport and Marshall before we could extricate ourselves to meet him. The defeat of our army before Natchitoches would have lost the department. Some persons say the campaign was successful, but it might have been so much better had this or that been done differently. Very true, but it might have been so much worse. That any action will be taken in this matter by the President I have not the least idea, but I have a pride that matters should be understood correctly by the people, and particularly by General Smith's friends. As I should hate for the enemy to get this document I shall await a safe opportunity to send it.

Your affectionate nephew,

E. C[UNNINGHAM.]

[RICHARD H. CUNNINGHAM,
Lynchburg, Va.]

JULY 11, [1864.]

P. S.—Dr. Tom has just called and says he will take this for me. He will probably see you and tell you how I am getting on.

E. C.

No. 95.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor, C. S. Army, commanding District of West Louisiana.**

ALEXANDRIA, *July* 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The accompanying report was written long since, but the impossibility of obtaining returns of the casualties in the cavalry prevented me from forwarding it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Shreveport, April 18, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report and request that the accompanying documents be made a part of it. Document A (March 5) shows my anticipation of the enemy's campaign. Hearing that Sherman had visited New Orleans, I feared his co-operation with Banks from Vicksburg, but I had no means of estimating either the extent or time of such co-operation. Document B (March 7) orders Polignac to move his brigade to Alexandria at once. Document C (March 8) proposes an expedition against Plaquemine, as the enemy was not ready to move from the Teche, and an offensive movement, so unexpected, might well delay his attack and afford time for my re-enforcements from Texas to come up. Document D, with inclosed papers from March 13 to 15 inclusive, relative to the landing of the enemy at Simsport and subsequent

*See also General Taylor's correspondence, March 6–June 5, with General Smith, pp. 488–546.

movements until I joined the forces on the Boeuf, 25 miles south of Alexandria. The report of Major-General Walker (Document E) is respectfully submitted.* It is proper to observe that this officer had only three small companies of cavalry under his command, which were operating east of the Atchafalaya on the Mississippi. The movement of the enemy on the 12th separated these companies from General Walker, and they only reached him on the 15th, after I assumed command on the Boeuf. Consequently he was without means of gaining information from the 12th to the 15th, but subsequent events prove his estimate of the force in his front to have been more correct than mine.

From enemy's accounts it appears that Fort De Russy surrendered after two hours' resistance, with a loss to him of 4 killed and 30 wounded, and to us 5 killed and 4 wounded. The place was taken by a land attack, the gun-boats not making their appearance until after the surrender. The enemy claims 200 prisoners. Document F shows the number of guns, &c., lost.

Shortly after reaching the troops on the Boeuf I received the intelligence of the enemy's fleet reaching Alexandria about 4.30 p. m. on March 15. Before leaving Alexandria on the morning of that day I had taken steps to secure the removal of all public property by loading the steamers and sending them above the falls. From the point on the Boeuf where I assumed command of the troops the Burr's Ferry road strikes off to the Sabine. This is the shortest road from the lower Red River Valley to the Sabine. Twenty miles west of the Boeuf it crosses the old military road from Opelousas to Fort Jesup and Natchitoches. After the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, estimating the ability of the enemy at any time to throw an overwhelming force upon me by the Red River, I caused depots of forage to be placed on these roads at suitable points. The entire country from the Boeuf to the Sabine, or to Natchitoches, is a pine desert, furnishing no supplies whatever. On the 16th, the army was moved toward Carroll Jones', on the Natchitoches road, where it arrived on the evening of the 17th. Vincent's regiment of Second Louisiana Cavalry (the only mounted force at my disposal south of Red River) was ordered to move from the Teche, where it was watching the enemy's large force, and join me on the military road, leaving flying scouts on the enemy's flank. The position at Carroll Jones' was very favorable. It was a depot of forage. The roads to Burr's Ferry and to Natchitoches separated there. Only 12 miles from the Bayou Rapides and Cane River, it enabled me to draw supplies from both places and observe the movement of the fleet on the main Red River. Accordingly I determined to remain at Carroll Jones' until the last moment, hoping every hour to hear of re-enforcements, which a reference to Document G (of March 7) shows I had reason to expect. On the 19th, the Second Louisiana Cavalry joined me, and on the 20th, was sent forward to the valley of the Bayou Rapides to push on toward Alexandria.

During the 20th and the morning of the 21st, this regiment skirmished briskly with the enemy. Being apprehensive that the enemy would send largely superior forces and attempt to dislodge them, I sent Edgar's battery of light artillery to Colonel Vincent on the morning of the 21st, and posted it at a strong position near James' Store, where it commanded the valley of the Rapides. Late in the

* See of March 19, 1864, p. 598.

day, hearing the sounds of Edgar's pieces, I dispatched Major Brent, chief of artillery and ordnance on my staff, to examine the condition of affairs and ascertain if re-enforcements were needed by Colonel Vincent. This officer returned in the evening, informing me that re-enforcements would be needed, as Colonel Vincent expected to be attacked there in the morning. Some time elapsing without my hearing from Colonel Vincent, after Major Brent left him, I was fearful that the enemy had cut off my couriers, and therefore sent Capt. C. LeD. Elgee, of my staff, with an escort to communicate with Colonel Vincent and direct him to fall back at once to the infantry support. Captain Elgee did not reach the command, but was taken prisoner by the enemy and is now in their hands. The weather during the day and night of the 21st was wretched, raining and hailing heavily. At about 9 o'clock at night a large cavalry force of the enemy, guided by deserters and jayhawkers, took a road unknown to my best guides, crossing below James' Store at Grubb's Lake, got in rear of the position and surprised the camp, capturing the 4 pieces and men of Edgar's battery and 100 men of the Second Louisiana Cavalry. The aggregate loss of prisoners was about 200. On the morning of the 22d, deeming it possible that the enemy might attempt an advance of cavalry by the way of Carroll Jones', sent my trains to Beasley's and formed Mouton's division in line of battle at that place (Carroll Jones'); but as no demonstration was made I withdrew to Beasley's, which position covered the road to Many and Natchitoches, and from which there was a good road striking Cane River about 26 miles below Natchitoches, whence I could draw abundant supplies of forage and subsistence. At the same time I dispatched couriers to intercept the cavalry re-enforcements and direct them to cross the Sabine at points above Burr's Ferry and join me at Beasley's. From the 22d, to the 29th, I remained at Beasley's, hoping each day that some of my cavalry re-enforcements would arrive, the enemy in the mean time massing his forces at Monett's Ferry, and when he crossed Cane River, it being impossible to procure subsistence and forage from that direction, I ordered the cavalry to fall back slowly toward Natchitoches, contesting the enemy's advance, and moved the infantry by way of Fort Jesup to Pleasant Hill. Depots of supplies having been established at both places, I proceeded myself on the 30th to Natchitoches, where I remained until within a few hours of the arrival of the enemy.

On the night of the 30th, Colonel McNeill's Fifth Texas Cavalry reached Natchitoches, numbering 250 men, of whom 50 were unarmed, and on the morning of the 31st, Colonel Herbert's Seventh Texas Cavalry reached the same place, numbering 350 men, of whom 125 were unarmed. These were the first re-enforcements which reached me since the opening of the campaign. Taking a steam-boat I proceeded to Blair's Landing, and thence across the Bayou Pierre to Pleasant Hill, examining the road with a view to its use in hauling supplies from the river in the event of our occupying Pleasant Hill for any considerable length of time. I reached Pleasant Hill on April 1, the divisions of Major-General Walker and Brigadier-General Mouton arriving on the same day.

On the evening of April 1, Major-General Green joined me in person. On the night of April 1, I was informed by General Green that Colonel Debray was marching from Many to Pleasant Hill with his regiment and Moseley's and McMahan's batteries and his trains. As the enemy was moving up on the Natchitoches road to Pleasant

Hill in force I ordered Colonel Debray to push forward his batteries and trains with dispatch, which was done. Colonel Debray, with his regiment, unexpectedly encountered the enemy before he reached Pleasant Hill and had a brisk skirmish with them, which resulted in a loss to him of 4 or 5 wounded. At the same time General Bagby, with his cavalry command, was skirmishing with the enemy who were advancing on the Natchitoches road. On the morning of the 3d, I offered battle to the enemy at Pleasant Hill, which was not accepted by him, and leaving the cavalry in the front I withdrew the infantry to Mansfield, which place they reached on the 5th. On the 6th, Brigadier-General Major's brigade of cavalry, Hardeman's and Waller's regiments, of Bagby's brigade of cavalry, and Buchel's regiment of cavalry reached Mansfield, having taken the road via Logansport, as directed by me on the night of the 2d. On the morning of the 7th, I received information from Brigadier-General Major, commanding the cavalry advance and outposts at Pleasant Hill, that the enemy was advancing with a large force of all arms and was driving in our pickets. On receipt of this news I moved to the front in company with Major-General Green, and after verifying the fact that the advance was rather serious, leaving General Green in command in front I returned to Mansfield to make my arrangements for the following day, announcing my intention to department headquarters to fight a general engagement the next day if the enemy advanced in force, unless ordered positively not to do so.

Churchill's and Parsons' divisions of Arkansas and Missouri troops, numbering about 4,000 bayonets, were ordered to march at early dawn on the morning of the 8th from their camp, 20 miles distant, to Mansfield. These troops reached Shreveport on the evening of March 24, and were retained at that place until late in the evening of April 4, when they were ordered to march to Keachie, report to me, and await my orders at that point.

The infantry divisions of Major-General Walker and Brigadier-General Mouton were ordered on the night of the 7th to move at early dawn on the 8th, to a position about 3 miles below Mansfield, which had been selected by me on the previous day. The chief surgeon of the army (Surgeon McKelvey) was directed to make all necessary arrangements in the village of Mansfield for the care of the wounded. The chief quartermaster and commissary (Major Sanders and Major Mason) were instructed to pursue their ordinary avocations and get up forage and supplies.

I beg leave to submit copies of the correspondence between myself and department headquarters between my arrival at Carroll Jones' and the morning of April 8. Arrangements were perfected to secure quiet and order among the wagon trains camped around Mansfield.

In the morning of the 8th, I moved down to the position selected for the troops. Walker's division occupied the right of the road, facing Pleasant Hill, Buchel's and Terrell's regiments of cavalry, under Brigadier-General Bee, on its right; Mouton's division on the left of the road, with Major's division of cavalry, consisting of his own and Bagby's brigades (dismounted), on Mouton's left. Debray's regiment of cavalry was held in the road a little to the rear. Haldeman's and Daniel's batteries were on the right in position with Walker's division, Cornay's and Nettles' with Mouton's division. McMahan's battery, which had been in the front with the cavalry

advance, relieving the Valverde, was withdrawn to the rear and held with the reserve artillery, the wooded condition of the country offering no field for the employment of many guns. My line of battle was in the edge of a wood, with cleared fields in front on both sides of the Pleasant Hill road, the clearing about 1,000 yards in extent. Soon after the troops were in position our cavalry was rapidly driven in and assumed the positions above described. On the left a body of the enemy's cavalry, following hard upon ours, ran into the line of the Eighteenth Louisiana and was destroyed. The enemy formed his line in the woods on the opposite side of the cleared fields, and some light skirmishing took place. I soon found that the enemy was weakening his left and massing on his right to turn me. I at once brought Terrell's regiment of cavalry to the left to re-enforce Major, and Randal's brigade, of Walker's division, from the right to the left of the road to strengthen Mouton's, causing the whole line to gain ground to the left to meet the attack. These movements were masked by throwing forward skirmishers toward the enemy and deploying Debray's regiment of cavalry in the open fields on both sides of the road. It was not until 4 p. m. that these changes were completed, when, becoming impatient at the delay of the enemy in developing his attack, and suspecting that his arrangements were not complete, I ordered Mouton to open the attack from the left. The charge made by Mouton across the open was magnificent. With his little division, consisting of his own and Polignac's brigades, the field was crossed under a murderous fire of artillery and musketry, the wood was reached, and our little line sprang with a yell on the foe. In this charge General Mouton, commanding division, fell. Colonel Armant, of the Eighteenth Louisiana; Colonel Beard, of the Crescent Regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding Twenty-eighth Louisiana; Lieutenant-Colonel Noble, Seventeenth Texas; Major Canfield, of the Crescent Regiment, were killed, and Lieutenant-Colonel Clack, Crescent Regiment, dangerously wounded. Seven standard-bearers fell one after another with the flag of the Crescent Regiment.

Despite these and other heavy losses of officers and men, the division never halted for a moment nor ever fell into confusion, but under the gallant Polignac pressed stubbornly on. Major, with his division, consisting of his brigade, under Colonel Lane, Bagby's brigade, Vincent's brigade of Louisiana cavalry, re-enforced by Terrell's regiment drawn from the right, dismounted his men on Mouton's left and kept pace with his advance, forcing back and turning the enemy's right. Randal supported Mouton's attack by advancing his regiments en echelon from the left. In vigor, energy, and daring Randal surpassed my expectations, high as they were of him and his fine brigade. These movements on the left of the road to Pleasant Hill were under the immediate direction of Maj. Gen. Thomas Green, who displayed the high qualities which have distinguished him on so many fields. As soon as the left attack was well developed I ordered Major-General Walker to move Waul's and Scurry's brigades into action, directing General Bee, on his right, to press on with Debray's and Buchel's cavalry to gain the enemy's rear. Believing my right outflanked by the enemy, General Walker was instructed to throw forward Scurry to turn his left and gain a position on the high road beyond his main line of battle. The dense wood through which Bee advanced prevented him from gaining much ground, but the gallantry and vigor with which that accomplished soldier

(Walker) led his fine brigades into action and pressed on the foe has never been surpassed. Until he was disabled by a painful wound on the following day, every hour but illustrated his capacity for command. The enemy in vain formed new lines of battle on the wooded ridges, which are a feature of the country. Every line was swept away as soon as formed, and every gun taken as soon as put in position. For 5 miles the enemy was driven rapidly and steadily. Here the Thirteenth Corps gave way entirely and was replaced by the Nineteenth, hurriedly brought up to support the fight. The Nineteenth Corps, though fresh, shared the fate of the Thirteenth. Nothing could arrest the astonishing ardor and courage of our troops. Green, Polignac, Major, Bagby, and Randal on the left, Walker, Bee, Scurry, and Waul on the right swept all before them. Just as night was closing in the enemy massed heavily on a ridge overlooking a small creek. As the water was important to both parties, I ordered the enemy driven from it. The fighting was severe for a time, but Walker, Green, and other gallant leaders led on our tired men, and we camped on the creek as night fell, the enemy forced back some 400 yards beyond. The conduct of our troops was beyond all praise. There was no straggling, no plundering. The vast captured property was quietly taken to Mansfield and turned over untouched to the proper officers.

Daylight on the 9th found every man at his post, and the pursuit was taken up with full ranks. This testimony is due the army under my command. The village of Mansfield, only 3 miles from this fierce battle, was during the day and night the scene of order and quiet. The excellent arrangements made by Surgeon McKelvey, medical director; Major Sanders, chief quartermaster, and Major Mason, chief commissary of subsistence, secured the efficient workings of their several departments. Not a straggler was seen in the village on the 8th or 9th, and citizens assured me but for the sound of the guns they might have supposed peace to reign in the land. After all was quiet at the creek, and the necessary orders for the morning had been given to Major-Generals Walker and Green, I returned to Mansfield to hurry forward Churchill's and Parsons' divisions, arrived that evening from Keachie, 22 miles distant. Churchill and Parsons were put in motion for the front at 2 a. m. After sending dispatches to department headquarters and giving necessary instructions to the heads of the several departments I returned to the front at 3.30 a. m. Finding the enemy had retreated during the night, as I supposed he must after the severe losses of the preceding day, I sent forward all the cavalry under Green, the infantry following in column along the Pleasant Hill road, Churchill leading, then Parsons, Walker, and Polignac, now commanding Mouton's division. I accompanied the cavalry. For 12 miles not a shot was fired by the enemy. Many prisoners, burning wagons, scattered arms, gave evidence of the rout. A mile in advance of Pleasant Hill, Green found the enemy drawn up in a strong position. As we had left the infantry far in our rear by the rapid advance, I ordered feints to be made to the right and left to develop the position and strength of the enemy. The importance of pushing Banks beyond Pleasant Hill could not be overestimated. As shown by his orders dated at Natchitoches and captured on the 8th, Banks expected to reach Shreveport on the 11th with the Thirteenth [and] Nineteenth Corps and the cavalry via Pleasant Hill and Mansfield, and had on the 8th made two-thirds of the distance between the two

points. Simultaneous with his march from Natchitoches a fleet of some thirty gun-boats and transports, many of the latter loaded with troops, ascended the river above Grand Ecore, the port of Natchitoches, on the main Red River. This fleet was watched by Brigadier-General Liddell with a small brigade of cavalry and a four-gun battery. This officer had been in command on the Ouachita. He was directed to throw his command from the Ouachita to the east bank of Red River and annoy the enemy's boats in the river. As he was in constant communication with me, his movements were directed from this side and made to conform with mine. Such was the confidence of the enemy in his superior numbers and vast preparations that his fleet ascended the river 100 miles above Grand Ecore, notwithstanding the difficulty of navigation, the result of low and falling water, and the punishment inflicted by Liddell. The troops of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, which came from Vicksburg and landed at Simsport, as they came in transports and had not appeared on the battle-field of the 8th, were certainly on the transports, being without land transportation. From Pleasant Hill a good road leads to Blair's Landing, on Red River, 16 miles distant, and crossing Bayou Pierre 4 miles from the river, Blair's Landing being 45 miles above Grand Ecore by water. From Pleasant Hill to Natchitoches the stage road leads around Spanish Lake, distance 36 miles, through a pine woods desert. The possession of Pleasant Hill thus prevented Banks from re-enforcing by the short line from his transports by the Blair's Landing road and threw him back to Natchitoches before he could unite his troops.

On the night of the 8th, shortly after the action closed, I ordered a force of cavalry to push on the road from Blair's Landing to Pleasant Hill, taking a cross-road from Mansfield which fell into that road near the ferry over the Bayou Pierre, mentioning in the order that a small force posted on the bluff overlooking Bayou Pierre could delay indefinitely the crossing of that stream from the east. Unfortunately this order was construed to mean that its execution was to follow on possession of Pleasant Hill, so that I could not decide what force we were confronted by on the 9th. It was late after midday before the infantry got up, and a glance at Churchill's troops showed they were too much exhausted to attack. The infantry was ordered to lie down and rest for two hours. Mean time cavalry was pushed right and left to gain information, and a party was sent on the Blair's Landing road by a detour to the left, to procure the intelligence of which I was deprived by the mistake above mentioned. This party did not return until after the attack. At 3 p. m., the infantry being somewhat restored by rest, the plan of attack was formed and the troops put in motion. The Arkansas and Missouri divisions, under Churchill and Parsons, with Etter's and Daniel's batteries, were sent to the right to outflank the enemy, reach the Jesup road, and attack from the south and west. Churchill, the senior officer, was to push Hardeman's, McNeill's, and Terrell's cavalry to his right, and communicate with Walker on his left. When the enemy was driven, the cavalry above mentioned was to push down the Jesup road for 12 miles, take a cross-road leading into the Natchitoches road, and thus fall on the enemy's line of retreat. Walker filed to the right through the woods to form line between the Pleasant Hill and Jesup roads and communicate with Churchill's left. As soon as he heard Churchill's and Parsons' guns he was to attack by echelon of brigades from his right, the men to throw for-

ward their right shoulders as they came into action. Orders were given to all to rely on the bayonet, as we had neither ammunition nor time to waste. These orders were well carried out, as many ghastly wounds among the Federals testify. On the left of Walker, Bee held Debray's and Buchel's cavalry in the main road from Mansfield, with orders to charge through Pleasant Hill whenever the right attack disordered the enemy. To the left of the road Major, with his own and most of Bagby's cavalry (dismounted), was to move forward, outflank the enemy's right, and gain and hold the Blair's Landing road. These latter movements were under the immediate charge of General Green. Polignac, whose division had suffered more than any in the previous battle, was held in reserve in the Mansfield road behind Bee's cavalry. At 4.30 p. m. (about the time I expected Churchill to be in position) I directed General Green to open artillery on a battery posted on an eminence fronting the Mansfield road where it debouched from the woods to a low cleared field. This was for the purpose of diverting the enemy's attention from Churchill's attack. Nettles', Moseley's, and J. A. A. West's batteries were posted by Major Semmes, chief of artillery to General Green, and soon overpowered the enemy's fire on the hill before mentioned. The Valverde Battery, under Nettles, was first in action, and was roughly used by the opposing fire, but the other batteries mentioned soon opened and drove the enemy from his formidable position.

To conclude with the artillery, Major Brent, chief of artillery on my staff; Major French, of General Walker's staff, who later brought Haldeman's battery into position, and Major Semmes illustrated the high capacity of their arm of the service. Our batteries were at one time advanced in the open field within 200 yards of the wooded hill held by the enemy's infantry, and opened without support from that position. The hill before alluded to, on which was posted the enemy's battery, was the key to his position in this quarter. To his left extended a range of broken hills, densely clothed with young pines, and his troops were well posted along these wooded hills and protected by piles of logs, rails, and some abatis. At about 5 p. m. Churchill and Parsons opened on the right and Walker commenced his advance in support. Just then our fire overpowered the enemy's battery, in front of the Mansfield road, and disabled his guns, which were removed to the rear. The confusion and movement incident to this, coupled with the sound of Churchill's and Parsons' attack, led General Green naturally to suppose the time for Bee's charge had arrived. Bee led forward Debray's and Buchel's fine regiments in most gallant style across the fields and up the opposite slope, where he was stopped by a close and deadly fire of musketry from the dense woods on either side of the road. Bee was struck, Buchel mortally wounded, and Debray and Major Menard, of the same regiment, struck. Many a gallant horseman went down. Bee drew back, himself retiring last. The charge failed for the time, but the gallantry displayed by Bee, Debray, Buchel, Menard, and others produced its effect on the enemy. During this time Walker had led his splendid division across the field and was fully engaged in the opposite wood, and Major had swept around to the left with his dismounted cavalry of Bagby's and his own brigade, under Colonel Terrell (severely wounded in the fight), cleared the wood to the left, and seized and held the position occupied by the enemy's battery in the commencement of the engagement. The stubborn resistance offered by the enemy along the whole line soon

convinced me that he had received re-enforcements of fresh troops, and I ordered forward Polignac.

Just then information reached me that Major-General Walker was wounded. Galloping to the spot I found that he had received a severe contusion in the groin, and ordered him to quit the field, which he did most reluctantly. His wound was a great misfortune. The continuity of our line was lost, as I could not for some time find either of his brigade commanders, all of whom were hotly engaged within the pine thicket in the front.

Churchill in his attack did not gain ground enough to his right nor use his cavalry efficiently. The consequence was that, although his first attack was vigorous, sweeping all before it, the enemy outflanked his right and threw him into much confusion. He did all in his power to restore order, and was ably seconded by Generals Parsons, Tappan, and Clark, whose brigade of Missourians suffered heavily. Brigadier-General Scurry, also commanding the right brigade of Walker's division, behaved most nobly, and speaks highly of Colonel Waterhouse, commanding one of his regiments. General Scurry was slightly wounded in the engagement. The efforts of these leaders prevented the confusion on the right from becoming disastrous. Mean time the fighting on the left and center was close and fierce. The fresh troops of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps held their ground manfully. The dense woods prevented a view of the field, and the continuity of our line was lost. An idea prevailed that we were firing on each other. Green, Polignac, Major, Randal, and Gray, with their respective staffs, rallied the troops and led them again and again into action, and the men by their conduct showed themselves worthy of such leaders. At nightfall I withdrew the troops to prevent the additional confusion incident to darkness and formed line in the open field. The men fell in at once, and, animated by their noble leaders, brought order and confidence to the ranks. Brigadier-General Waul withdrew from the wood, where he had been hotly engaged, in fine style and showed the coolness of a veteran. General Churchill reported to me in person from the right and enabled me to judge the result. With 12,000 men we had attacked twenty-odd thousand, many of them fresh troops, posted strongly on ground unknown to us. We had driven them at every point, and but for the mistake and consequent confusion on the right we would have captured most of his army. This was accomplished by hard, stern, stubborn fighting. I respectfully refer to my order to the army for a statement of the tangible fruits of our victories. After order was restored I directed the infantry to fall back some 6 miles to water, as there was none to be had nearer and all were parched with thirst. As many of the cavalry as could be foraged were sent to the same point, where forage and rations had been accumulated. The remainder, except Debray's regiment, was ordered to Mansfield to feed and rest. This was absolutely necessary. The cavalry had been fighting and marching for four consecutive days, and man and horse had been without food for forty hours. I remained with General Bee some 300 yards from the battle-field, two companies of Debray's regiment picketing on the field. The noise of wagons moving in the rear of the enemy's position confirmed my opinion that he would retreat in the night. The cavalry which was sent to the first water to forage was ordered to come to the front at daylight to take up the pursuit, and orders were issued to make details to bury the dead and care for the wounded.

The morning of the 10th found us in possession of Pleasant Hill, the enemy retreating secretly in the night, leaving his dead unburied and some 400 wounded in our hands. Bee took up the pursuit and held it for 20 miles without receiving a shot, capturing prisoners and finding at every step the same evidence of rout as had marked the pursuit of the previous day.

Thus was defeated this great expedition for the conquest of the Trans-Mississippi Department. The third army of the enemy in point of numbers on the theater of the war was routed and driven from the field with a loss of at least 10,000 men. These great results, due alone to the valor of the army under my command, were accomplished at great sacrifice of life. Both in numbers and in quality has the loss been heavy to the country. A consolidated report* of the casualties of the two battles accompanies this report. The report of the cavalry corps is omitted, the active nature of their service preventing prompt returns. The casualties of the cavalry will swell the whole loss to 2,500.

I cannot speak too highly of the services rendered during the two days' operations by my staff. Major Surget, assistant adjutant-general, who was with me in all the hard-fought actions of the Valley campaign, distinguished himself highly. So did Lieutenant Hunter, aide-de-camp, and G. L. Fusilier and T. J. Williams, volunteer aides. The latter gentleman, formerly sheriff of De Soto Parish, was very useful from his intimate acquaintance with the country. Captain Stevens, assistant quartermaster at Alexandria previous to the advance of the enemy, accompanied me on both days and was active and zealous in the transmission of orders. The same can be said of Lieutenants Chambers and Williams, of Benjamin's company, forming my escort. These officers, with a few men of their company, performed excellent service, as did their men, and are entitled to honorable mention. Of Maj. J. L. Brent, chief of artillery and ordnance, an officer always in the right place at the right time, I have previously spoken, as well as of the meritorious conduct and efficiency of Chief Surgeon McKelvey, Major Sanders, and Major Mason. Captain May, acting assistant adjutant-general, remained at Mansfield and contributed much by his energy and good judgment to the preservation of order and the general efficiency of all branches of the service. Surgeon Egan, inspector of hospitals for this district, was in charge of the Mansfield hospitals, and did much to mitigate the sufferings of our wounded. Surgeon Yandell, medical director of the department, placed his energy and high professional skill at my disposition and was of incalculable use to us. Taking charge of the hospitals at Pleasant Hill, he speedily perfected arrangements for the proper care of the wounded at that point. Surgeon Hooper, president of the medical board, with Surgeon Lawrence and Surgeon Scott, followed Surgeon Yandell to Pleasant Hill and assisted in the good work. I was deprived of the very valuable services of Maj. William M. Levy, assistant adjutant and inspector general, never before absent from the field since I assumed command in this State. Confined to his tent by severe illness, Major Levy was only able to contribute to our success by the assistance he gave Captain May at Mansfield.

I desire especially to call attention to the high character and service of Majors Surget and Levy. Distinguished time and again for

* Not found.

gallantry on the field as well as for patient labor in office work, these officers are almost deprived of the hope of promotion, as they have already attained the grade allowed by the custom of the service to officers of the adjutant and inspector general's departments, serving on the staff of a major-general. It would be very gratifying to me could these gallant officers receive the preferment they have so justly earned.

To understand the movements of the three days preceding the battle of Pleasant Hill a short description of the country is necessary. Leaving the Red River on the west bank a few miles below Shreveport, the Bayou Pierre, after a long course, in which it frequently expands into wide lakes, returns to the Red River 3 miles above Grand Ecore, divides the hills of Caddo, De Soto, and Natchitoches from the alluvion of Red River. Three main roads lead from the interior to landings on Red River and cross Bayou Pierre by ferries, the stream being 300 feet wide at the narrowest ferry and never fordable. These main roads, commencing at the south, are the road from Pleasant Hill to Blair's Landing, crossing Bayou Pierre at Jordan's Ferry, 4 miles from the latter place; the road from Mansfield to Grand Bayou Landing, 18 miles, crossing Bayou Pierre at a wide ferry, and the road to Red Bluff Landing, which leaves the Mansfield and Shreveport road about midway between the two places. I had stationed on the west bank of the Red River a most energetic and reliable officer, Capt. James McCloskey, assistant quartermaster and chief of forage on my staff, with instructions to keep me advised of the progress of the enemy's fleet, the condition of the river, and facilitate my communications with Brigadier-General Liddell, operating, as previously stated, on the opposite side of the river with his cavalry brigade and a battery of four guns. Dispatches from General Liddell and Captain McCloskey informed me that the fleet of about thirty vessels, of which only five were loaded with troops—the others being gunboats and transports loaded with stores—passed Grand Bayou Landing on the morning of the 9th, pushing slowly and steadily up the river, as at the low stage of the water every mile which they gained in ascending served to insure their destruction. I felt anxious to cut off their communication with Banks, being certain that the intelligence of his defeat on the 8th and 9th would send the fleet down to Grand Ecore. Accordingly, at daylight on the morning of the 11th, Bagby, with his brigade of cavalry, which had returned to Mansfield from the battle-field of Pleasant Hill to forage, was ordered to proceed with his brigade and Barnes' battery to Grand Bayou. Before reaching the ferry over Bayou Pierre he ascertained that the enemy had succeeded, on the afternoon of the 10th, in passing 40 cavalry up the river to communicate with the fleet, which had immediately turned back from Boggy Bayou, the highest point reached by it. Bagby immediately proceeded to throw his command across the ferry to the bank of the river. The time lost in crossing Bayou Pierre without a pontoon brought him too late on the river, the fleet having passed Grand Bayou Landing on their way down at 10 a. m. on the 11th. He pushed on down the river road toward Blair's Landing, which he reached on the evening of the 12th, after the close of Green's operations of that day. The want of a pontoon alone prevented him from inflicting heavy damage upon the enemy.

During this time (the 10th and 11th) the infantry had been drawn back to the neighborhood of Mansfield, for reasons which will

appear by reference to my correspondence with department headquarters. Bee, with part of Major's and Buchel's and Debray's regiments, of his own command, was pursuing the enemy toward Natchitoches. Green was at Pleasant Hill directing generally the operations of the cavalry in front. Woods' and Gould's regiments and portions of Parsons' brigade, which had reached Mansfield from Texas on the evening of the 9th and morning of the 10th, with Terrell's regiment, which had returned to Mansfield from Pleasant Hill to forage, all being cavalry, were pushed down to Green on the 10th and early on the 11th. Nettles', J. A. A. West's, McMahan's, and Moseley's batteries were also sent down, and General Green was informed of the position and movements of the fleet. The importance of reaching Blair's Landing in advance of the fleet was impressed upon him. Green with his usual energy marched from Pleasant Hill for Blair's Landing at 6 p. m. of the 11th. The same difficulty which met Bagby in the passage of the Bayou Pierre, namely, the want of a pontoon—which reference to my correspondence with department headquarters will show I had long before asked for—seriously delayed Green's movement. He, however, reached the river at and below Blair's Landing on the 12th, with Woods', Gould's, and Parsons' commands, and engaged the fleet. The loss inflicted upon the crowded transports of the enemy was terrible. Several times the transports raised the white flag, but the gun-boats, protected by their plating, kept up their fire and compelled our troops to renew the punishment on the transports. Many times our sharpshooters forced the gun-boats to close their port-holes, and it is believed that the result would have been the capture of the whole fleet but for the unfortunate fall of the noble Green, killed by a discharge of grape from one of the gun-boats. Notwithstanding that this action took place within sound of Banks' army, now concentrated at Grand Ecore, such was the demoralization resulting from the defeats of the 8th and 9th that not even a demonstration was made to assist the fleet.

Liddell, on the east bank, was, during the 11th, 12th, and 13th, actively engaged with the fleet, but no detailed report of his operations has yet been received. I beg leave to refer to copies of my orders to General Liddell, accompanying my report. On the night of the 12th, the fleet passed below the mouth of Bayou Pierre, cutting off further operations from the west bank of the river. Accordingly, the cavalry near Blair's Landing, under the command of General Major, marched back to Pleasant Hill and joined General Bee, in front of Grand Ecore and Natchitoches, which latter place was occupied by us on the 15th, the enemy having all his forces concentrated at Grand Ecore behind hastily constructed works, with a pontoon across the river, with his gun-boats and transports aground above and below.

To return for a moment to the morning of the 11th: Vincent's regiment of Second Louisiana Cavalry, much weakened by the disaster at James' Store, with Bush's regiment of Louisiana cavalry and a mountain howitzer, captured on the 8th from the enemy, were ordered down to Opelousas and the Attakapas country to capture and destroy any small bands of the enemy found roving in that region. As the enemy had stripped all that country of troops in his forward movement, Vincent is expected to clear the country, arouse the population, and prevent any captured or stolen property from reaching that outlet of escape.

Early on the morning of the 13th, the general commanding the

department visited my headquarters at Mansfield and expressed great anxiety for the destruction of Steele's column. It was certain, in my opinion, that Steele would receive intelligence of Banks' defeat and immediately beat a hasty retreat; but the general's views differing from mine, I expressed my willingness to march to General Price with the main body of my infantry and serve under his command until Steele's column was destroyed or driven back. I understood, however, in view of the great importance of promptly following and destroying Banks' army and capturing the immense supplies which accompanied them, a thing which I then believed, and which subsequent events have shown to be entirely feasible, which was, in fact, the legitimate fruit of the victories of the 8th and 9th and subsequent operations on the river, that as soon as Steele was known to have taken the alarm and commenced his retreat my movement northward would stop, and I would be permitted to return to complete the work so auspiciously begun. The general commanding the department, after remaining with me a few hours, returned to Shreveport.

At daylight on the 14th, Walker's, Churchill's, and Parsons' divisions of infantry took up their line of march for Shreveport, with everything prepared for an active and vigorous campaign. The same day Polignac's division of infantry, numbering scarcely 2,000 bayonets, was pushed toward Natchitoches to give confidence to and support the cavalry, operating against the enemy at Grand Ecore and below. Being two days' march from Mansfield to Shreveport, I did not leave the former place until the forenoon of the 15th, and reached Shreveport on the evening of that day, when I learned at an interview with the general commanding the department that Steele had already commenced his retreat from a point 110 miles distant, but he still hoped to overtake him, and proposed to assume command of the movement in person. My offer to accompany the troops was declined, and I was left in nominal command at Shreveport, with permission to join the troops near Natchitoches if I thought proper. I have remained at Shreveport until this evening (the 18th instant), engaged in writing this report of an extended campaign, and purpose proceeding toward Natchitoches to-morrow morning to take command of the cavalry and Polignac's division of infantry. As I am writing these last lines a telegram from the chief of staff of the general commanding, dated Magnolia, the 18th, informs me that the pontoon train which I had in vain asked for, and which accompanied the general commanding the department on his march from this point northward on the morning of the 16th, has been ordered back and placed at my disposition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

[Inclosure A.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose copies of reports from General Polignac.* This officer has done all that his means will allow.

*See operations on the Ouachita River, &c., p. 155.

I have received information from New Orleans of a definite character. Ten light stern-wheelers are in readiness. These boats are bullet-proof, but not intended to resist artillery. They are doubtless for the purpose of following the advance of the troops with supplies, and are armored against sharpshooters. Three thousand cavalry have arrived from the North, and 5,000 additional re-enforcements are expected. Between 5,000 and 6,000 men have been brought back from Texas. The cavalry and the troops from Texas have re-enforced Franklin on the Teche. The movement will take place between the 15th and 20th of this month. The cavalry with some infantry will move up the Teche, and the gun-boats with infantry up the Red River. As General Franklin is a slow man, it is not likely he will be ready before the 15th. My informant left New Orleans on the morning of the 25th ultimo; came by Berwick Bay and the Teche. He possesses unusual means of information, and his statement can be implicitly relied upon. Banks had received orders to attack Mobile at all hazards. He was resisting the order, being unwilling to be thrown into the circle of Grant's operations. If Banks cannot escape the orders from Washington, Mobile will be first attacked; otherwise the programme above mentioned will be carried out. The force of the enemy disposable for this expedition he estimated at 22,000, of which 6,000 or 7,000 will be mounted. I shall assume that Banks will carry out his own plans, as he has already commenced the concentration at Berwick and Franklin, and make provision for it. Captain Devoe, engineer, with the negroes and tools from Trinity, goes to De Russy to-day to assist in completing the work there. General Walker has been directed to push everything to the utmost, and provisions for three months for the garrison will be placed at once in the magazines. I have directed General Polignac to be in readiness to march to this point, as I must look to a concentration of my small means near the Huffpower. The Ouachita defenses cannot be resumed until the fall of the Mississippi prevents the ingress of gun-boats. This will be, at the present rate of fall, in ten days. Before this it will be decided whether Banks goes to Mobile or comes this way. With energy Fort De Russy can be ready in time. There is no intention to operate in Texas at this time from the Gulf. Steele will operate from the north as soon as the season is propitious. Every man in Southern and Western Texas over and above the garrisons and local corps is out of the campaign, but General Holmes will probably have his hands full. The above information is strictly correct, and can be relied on with as much confidence as if the plans had been laid here instead of in New Orleans.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Inclosure B.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. J. POLIGNAC,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: As soon as possible after the receipt of this order you will march with your brigade to this point. A depot of forage has

been established at Lacroix's Ferry for you. Should you conclude that it will be best for you to march your command to Alexandria by any other road than that leading by Lacroix's Ferry, advise these headquarters to such effect by return courier, and forage will be sent from here to some point on your intended line of march to meet you. Advise Brigadier-General Liddell that you have received this order to march to Alexandria, in order that he may send his cavalry down to picket the country you are about leaving.

By command of Major-General Taylor:

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure C.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 8, 1864.

Major-General WALKER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 7th instant. For two days there has been nothing from Colonel Vincent. My information still points to a Red River expedition, and it is best to rest under that belief until we have certain evidence to the contrary. The continued rapid fall of the Mississippi, if it proceeds so far as to close the entrance into Old River, would be our best guarantee. The dispositions with regard to your wagons and surplus baggage, mentioned in my letter of yesterday, must be modified by you on any intelligence you receive of a positive character of the Mobile expedition. I am very anxious to place our troops on the Mississippi as soon as it can be done with safety, both to annoy the enemy and for the purpose of forage. In addition, I feel confident Plaquemine can be attacked with success if done within a short period, or before the fort is completed. There are but 600 men there, with four guns, and very negligent guard kept. Scurry can take the place with 500 picked men. By moving down the west bank of the Atchafalaya the movement could be concealed by night marches and taking swamp roads. The capture of this place with its garrison and stores would be of immense service to our cause at this time, and is worth any hazard if there be a remote chance of success. Scurry will do it if possible if you lay out the plan for him. Mouton's brigade marches to Lecompte to-day, and Polignac is en route for the same point. He should have left Trinity this morning. There must be some mistake about Weitzel. He was ordered to report to Butler, and his arrival at Fortress Monroe was announced some time since. Should the enemy attempt nothing but a cavalry raid we should be able to punish that without much difficulty. Your observations about the traverse for the water batteries are well considered. They must be made, by all means, and very strong, otherwise the guns could not be served in the event of a land attack. Artillery fire from the direction you mention would drive every man from them. The river here is on a stand and will probably commence falling to-day.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Inclosure D.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General BOGGS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The inclosed copies will furnish the latest information of enemy's movements. Colonel Vincent's last dispatch of the 11th reports no movement from Franklin, but every indication of an immediate advance. By reference to a former communication it will appear that I anticipated co-operation by Sherman if Banks advanced with his principal force from Berwick Bay, but I suppose Banks, on the long line, would have moved first, and his movement would indicate the other. I also hoped, rather than expected, that Sherman's movement would be north of Red River, as the move by Simsport was the one most apprehended. Polignac's command will not reach here until this evening. Every effort has been made to hurry him on, but distances are fixed facts and require time to overcome. I hope to have everything here—sick, stores, &c.—mobilized by to-night. Three boats are at De Russy to bring off negroes, tools, &c., at the last moment. Directions have been given to labor on the works to the last possible moment. An ample supply of provisions is in the fort, and all the ammunition we have suited to the guns. The loss of the material and garrison, should the fort not be able to hold out, will be severe; but having committed ourselves to the defense of that point we must take the risk. The river has commenced falling here slightly, and should the fall continue Alexandria will probably be the limit of the enemy's advance. Certainly it is extremely improbable that Sherman can delay here any considerable time. Before leaving here I will probably receive something more definite from General Walker and Major Douglas, who is at the fort. We will fight the enemy, of course, if there be only remote chance of success. Very full instructions have been sent to General Liddell and Colonel Vincent, and I hope to get away from this to-morrow morning for the De Glaize.

If we can fight the Simsport column at all, the sooner the better, before the movement from the Teche becomes embarrassing.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864.

Major DOUGLAS,
Chief Engineer Trans-Mississippi Department:

MAJOR: The late news from Simsport seems to indicate an advance of the enemy in that direction. Nothing from the Teche for two days, so that we cannot look for a movement thence for the moment. It is to be hoped you found the defenses in a sufficiently advanced state to insure their completion within a few hours. For the defense of the hill work the siege guns are now disposable, all the heavy guns on the river having reported for action. There is but little danger to be apprehended from the river. The works will successfully resist a move from boat attack. The land approach is

the dangerous one, but I do not believe the enemy can undertake a siege. If the port can resist a *coup*, I feel more confidence in relieving it. You will please report to me in full the condition of the defenses and your views. General Walker informs me he has directed the Countess to remain as long as possible. This, with the Dixie, should bring off negroes, tools, and property. The Frolic goes down to-night, and can also be used for the same purpose if necessary. I shall remain here until further developments, as there is much uncertainty of the extent of the enemy's movement.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. H. T. DOUGLAS,
Chief Engineer Trans-Mississippi Department:

MAJOR: Dispatches just received from General Walker announce a largely superior force of the enemy in his front at Moreauville. He fears much that the fort is not tenable. I have written that the delay of the enemy, even for a few days, will be of incalculable advantage to the country, and the place must be held if able to resist a *coup*. The Frolic takes down some provisions, which should not be placed in the fort if the supply on hand is sufficient to feed the garrison the time it can possibly hold out, or until I can relieve it if invested. Heavy re-enforcements are on their way to join me, and if the fort can sustain itself for a few days and keep back the gunboats, all will be well. The Frolic, with the two boats there, can bring off everything not needed at the fort. Tell Colonel Byrd, for me, to arrange with the couriers to preserve communication with this point as long as possible.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Col. HENRY GRAY,
Commanding Mouton's Brigade:

COLONEL: You will hold your brigade in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Should you receive orders to march it will be in the direction of Evergreen by way of the Huffpower. Major Nugent, chief quartermaster Mouton's division, has been directed to start to you immediately the number of wagons necessary to transport your rations and cooking utensils. The wagons will carry corn from here. It is supposed that in the event of your marching you will not care to be encumbered with much baggage.

By command of Major-General Taylor:

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 4.*]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864.

Col. HENRY GRAY,
Commanding Mouton's Brigade:

COLONEL: You were directed from these headquarters by courier, at 6.30 o'clock this morning, to hold your brigade in readiness to move at a moment's notice. * * * You will march with your brigade at once toward Yellow Bayou, by way of Evergreen, to report to Maj. Gen. J. G. Walker. You will send an officer ahead of you to ascertain where General Walker is, and will receive orders from him as to whether he desires you to form a junction with his command elsewhere, and will act under General Walker's orders unless otherwise directed from these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Taylor:

A. H. MAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 7.]

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION,
Near Mansura, March 13, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana:

The enemy has made no further advance than to Mrs. Norwood's plantation on Bayou De Glaize. He has not yet occupied Moreauville. I have my force posted as I informed you in my last dispatch. I have written to Colonel Gray, instructing him to join me by the Bayou Du Lac bridge, which is about 5 miles from Mansura. I think it would be injudicious to send Polignac by boats, as in case of an advance on the part of the enemy in force too strong for me to drive back, I might be caught in a cul-de-sac. It will be better I think for him to come by Lecompte and Bayou Huffpower. The report received from General Scurry last night that twenty transports had entered Red River in addition to those in the Atchafalaya induced me to send off the negroes. This report was not corrected until late to-day. Colonel Byrd has been directed to push forward the work by the labor of the garrison. I received my last dispatch from Colonel Byrd about 2 o'clock to-day, in which he informed me gun-boats had passed the raft. This, I suppose, was a mistake, as there has been no firing heard in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Sub-inclosure No. 8.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, March 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General WALKER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of to-day just received. I supposed you on the other side of the De Glaize. The enemy may follow the

* For sub-inclosure No. 5, see Taylor to Walker, March 13, p. 493; and for sub-inclosure No. 6, see May to Walker, 6 a. m., March 13, p. 492.

De Glaize road and beat you to Evergreen. Mouton's brigade is en route for Evergreen to unite with you. Polignac's brigade will reach here to-morrow and be pushed to Lecompte. Try and obtain as correct an estimate as possible of the enemy's strength, and whether he comes from down the river or not. The line of couriers from here to the Teche passes on the Boeuf, thus you can communicate from Evergreen or vicinity by Huffpower. If the fort is not tenable at all for the garrison it should not be sacrificed, but as re-enforcements are coming forward the delay of a few days would be of incalculable advantage to the cause. This will be carried down by the Frolic, which I have detained for the purpose. I suppose you have the light artillery which was on the river below the fort with you; if not, remove it either with you or to this point. The Countess, Frolic, and Dixie can doubtless bring off everything not required for the fort. A dispatch from Vincent of the 11th reports no movement at that date. Thus we have only the force in your front for the present. Try and obtain as correct estimate as possible of this, for if not too large we may defeat it before Banks gets up from below. In this view the holding of De Russy for a few days becomes of vast importance. Unless I hear from you something to prevent, I shall join you by the Huffpower as soon as I clear this place of all Government stores and make the necessary arrangements regarding my whole command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Sub-inclosure No. 9.]

Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
Alexandria, March 15, 1864.

Major-General Walker,
Commanding Division:

General: Yours of 4 p. m. just received. If the fort has fallen when you receive this, or it is certain that it will fall, march to Lecompte at once, leaving a few mounted men to observe if the enemy follow you. You can in the event of moving to Lecompte send back word to Gray and Polignac, who is marching from here to-day. I have depots between Lecompte and Natchitoches and I shall make for the latter place. We can come out at Cotile or McNutt's if we wish, or Red River, or continue to Natchitoches. I leave this in half an hour to join you.

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

[Inclosure F.]

List of ordnance and ordnance stores lost at Fort De Russy by its capture on March 14, 1864.

9-inch Dahlgren guns	2
Banded and rifled 32-pounder	1
Smooth-bore 32-pounder	1
32-pounder carronades	2
24-pounder guns	2
Iron 6-pounders	2

These guns were all mounted and fully equipped for service, and provided on an average with over 100 rounds per gun, the exact and detailed report of which is not given for want of access to the data of my office.

Enfield rifle cartridges	60,000
Extra caps	10,000

J. L. BRENT,
Chief of Art. and Ord., Dist. of West Louisiana.

MANSFIELD, *April* 14, 1864.

[Inclosure G.]

SHREVEPORT, *March* 7, 1864.

Major-General MAGRUDER,
Houston:

I am directed by Lieutenant-General Smith to say the division of General Green, concerning which you were telegraphed on the 5th instant, must be hurried off as soon as possible. It should be in Alexandria in ten days.

Respectfully,

S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Natchitoches, April 24, 1864.

COLONEL: Yesterday General Wharton pursued the enemy to Cloutierville, where he attempted to make a stand. Wharton finally drove him 1½ miles from his hastily constructed works. General Emory, of the Federals, is believed to have fallen in the fight. The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps were the troops engaged. We had some killed and many wounded. This morning Polignac's division is up, and will re-enforce Wharton. Bee, with four brigades and three batteries, holds Monett's Ferry, in Banks' front, and up to mid-day yesterday repulsed the enemy's efforts to force a passage. Banks' whole force is on this side of Red River, that portion on the east bank having recrossed at Grand Ecore on the 21st. I have the road to Beasley's strongly guarded, and Liddell has been directed to occupy the river bank opposite the mouth of Cane River. If my orders are well carried out the enemy must suffer before he gets away. Banks has some 15,000 with him; the others have gone down in boats. The enemy burned immense stores in Grand Ecore, and threw much in the river which we will recover. He was burning property all last night, the fires lighting the horizon. I think he will try and escape by crossing at Calhoun's, but Liddell should impede him much, while Wharton and Polignac worry his rear. Send me hospital surgeons, &c., as I expect to fight the enemy every day as long as I can get at him. We must either capture or force him to destroy the immense fleet he has above the falls. The enemy had very heavy works at Grand Ecore; 3 miles of sand-bags. I am saving these to fill with shelled corn. Let the boats bringing corn to me take negroes to commence shelling. When the boats reach Grand Ecore the bags can be filled while the boat goes down to Cotile. I must have shelled corn to enable me to operate below. Let the

negroes be procured at once. Energy in sending down subsistence and forage by boats is demanded by the exigencies of the service. Inform me,why the order I gave to impress horses in Shreveport was countermanded, and by whom. An important part of Faries' battery is thereby prevented from joining me. No one but the general commanding the department had a right to issue an order to prevent the execution of impressment positively directed by me.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. Anderson,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Headquarters District of West Louisiana,
Monett's Ferry, April 24, 1864.

Colonel: This morning Wharton commenced on the enemy at 3 a. m. by firing on his camp with artillery. His rear guard was 4 miles below Cloutierville. The fighting was brisk until 2 p. m., when the enemy crossed Monett's and escaped toward Alexandria. Banks' entire force has been before me for the last three days, and has been driven with heavy loss by Parsons' brigade with Barnes' battery. Polignac got to Monett's just as the enemy crossed his last troops. The force used against us was very large and of all arms, and it is difficult to estimate the importance of the service rendered by Wharton, Steele, and Parsons. The gallantry and pluck they exhibited in fighting such odds for three days is beyond praise. Parsons displayed great courage and has the entire confidence of his brigade. He should be promoted at once, as Steele commands a division. The service would be benefited. On the 21st (the day before the enemy left Natchitoches and Grand Ecore), Bee was in position at Monett's Ferry with Major's, Bagby's, Debray's, and Terrell's brigades of cavalry and McMahan's, Moseley's, J. A. A. West's, and Nettles' batteries. The importance of holding the position to the last extremity had been impressed upon General Bee both by Major-General Wharton and myself. The movement of the enemy on the night and morning of the 21st and 22d (the date of my arrival at Natchitoches) rendered communication with General Bee difficult, it being necessary to pass around the enemy via Beasley's and Carroll Jones', a distance of 56 miles. The head of the enemy's column reached Bee's front about 2 p. m. on the 22d. He held his position until about 2 p. m. of the 23d, when he allowed the enemy to outmaneuver him and force him back. During the 22d and 23d, the sound of our guns at Monett's Ferry and in the rear of the enemy was mutually heard by Wharton and Bee. The enemy experienced very heavy loss in forcing Monett's Ferry, and destroyed a large number of his wagons on the night of the 22d. Bee's errors were, first, in sending back Terrell's entire brigade to Beasley's to look after a subsistence train, for the safety of which I had amply provided; second, in taking no steps to increase artificially the strength of his position; third, in massing his troops in the center, naturally the strongest part of his position and where the enemy were certain not to make any decided effort, instead of toward the lakes on which his two flanks rested; fourth, in this, that when he was forced back he retired his whole force 30 miles to Beasley's, instead of attacking vig-

orously the enemy's column while marching 13 miles to Cotile through a dense pine woods, encumbered with trains and artillery and utterly demoralized by the vigorous attacks of Wharton in the rear. He displayed great personal gallantry, but no generalship. My unfortunate trip to Shreveport and the loss of Walker's division have assuredly saved Banks' army from utter destruction. Bee has been got back to-night to Carroll Jones', and I press on to Alexandria to-morrow. The destruction of this country by the enemy exceeds anything in history. For many miles every dwelling-house, every negro cabin, every cotton-gin, every corn-crib, and even chicken-houses have been burned to the ground; every fence torn down and the fields torn up by the hoofs of horses and wheels of wagons. Many hundreds of persons are utterly without shelter. But for our prompt attacks Natchitoches would have been burned to the ground, and also the little village of Cloutierville, both of them having been fired in several places.

I trust every effort will be made to push forward supplies by boat, both of subsistence and forage, with the least possible delay, and that no change may be made in the last orders sent to General Walker to join me as promptly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Near Monett's Ferry, April 25, 1864.

COLONEL: The enemy's fleet of gun-boats and transports, numbering in all about fifty, is crowded in the river above the falls. I shall endeavor to inflict all the damage possible upon the fleet, and shall construct fire rafts and float them down the river. Great damage, however, can probably be done by loading a light-draught steamer with combustible material and firing her a short distance above the fleet. If such a boat can be spared and loaded at once with combustibles at Shreveport, and put in charge of proper persons whom Captain McCloskey and Captain Pierce can select and recommend, I hope you will send her to me. With skiffs to take off the officers and crew the boat can be brought near the enemy, and they can leave their boat when she is set on fire and within proper distance.

Very respectfully,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 25, 1864.

COLONEL: The enemy has been driven to-day to Alexandria, taking the river road, his rear protected by a small gun-boat. A force of cavalry and artillery will be pushed to Fort De Russy to cut off his

communications below. Three gun-boats and two transports are at Montgomery, the former aground; one gun-boat at Deloach's Bluff above Cotile. They will be attacked at dawn to-morrow. The river is falling fast and very low.

Some subsistence must be sent this army from above or we will have to eat our boots. The failure to remove the Falls City is most unfortunate.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Monett's Ferry, April 25, 1864.

COLONEL: On the 16th instant I was informed by the general commanding that Walker's division, then moving from Shreveport, would not be taken from my command, but that the expedition in which it was engaged would occupy but a few days, when it would be returned to me. The division was subsequently halted beyond Minden, and I was apprised that it would march thence to Campti if the road was safe. Acting upon these assurances I have, with the small force at my disposal, driven the enemy from Natchitoches, and am this morning 40 miles below that place in a country entirely devastated and without supplies, and I received a communication from department headquarters that Walker's division has been ordered to Arkansas by the general commanding. My plans for following and driving the enemy were to a great extent based upon the assurance that Walker's division would be at my disposal. I would call the attention of department headquarters to the fact that last year when I had thrown my small force across Berwick Bay and into the La Fourche country for the purpose of relieving Port Hudson, and had given orders for the same division, then on the Ouachita, to join me in the La Fourche district, the general commanding the department, without communicating with me, ordered the division in a contrary direction.

On the 16th instant I ordered the removal of the wreck of the Falls City in order that the supplies needed by my little army might be brought down the river, and was assured by the chief engineer of the Trans-Mississippi Department that the obstruction would be removed in two days. To-day I received a communication from the engineer's office, dated on the 23d instant, informing me that up to that time the removal had not been effected, and I am thus deprived of supplies which I had every reason to rely upon. I am confident that any experienced steam-boat captain on the river would have accomplished in a day or two what has baffled the skill of the engineer department, with all the scientific knowledge and appurtenances of the Bureau. While engaged in the most active operations against the enemy, using all the limited means placed at my disposition to prevent the conquest of the Trans-Mississippi Department, Brigadier-General Liddell, an officer of my command whose operations were highly important to the success of my plans, was ordered directly from department headquarters to send two siege guns and a portion of his force to the Ouachita River. Thus repeated instances have occurred of orders being given directly by department headquarters

to officers within my immediate command, which conflict with my arrangements, and render my plans for the future so uncertain that I am almost disheartened.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 27, 1864.

COLONEL: The operations of yesterday were important. At daylight Bagby and Parsons attacked the rear of the enemy on the Rapides road and drove him rapidly down the bayou. Major attacked his flank at James' Store and Bee at McNutt's Hill. The pursuit and fighting continued until night in the direction of Alexandria and close in to that place. Since daylight on the 22d, when we attacked the enemy at Natchitoches, the fighting has never ceased one moment during light, Wharton even anticipating the dawn and continuing after nightfall. We suffer losses every day, but inflict incalculably greater on the enemy. Without food for man or horse, our men seem animated by a determination to quench the incendiary fires lighted by the vandals in their blood. If pluck and energy can supply the place of numbers we will yet reap the harvest of which the seeds were sown at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. Yesterday morning Colonels Likens and Harrison attacked four gun-boats and two transports at Montgomery. One of the gun-boats was a heavy iron-clad, casemated boat, and had been unable to pass the bar below Montgomery. The other boats remained to assist her. About 9 a. m. our sharpshooters opened and killed many of the enemy, his men being exposed in all directions working. After some delay the gun-boats opened a heavy fire and commenced moving down. The large iron-clad struck on the bar, when the enemy blew her up and continued down the river, our men following for some distance. A small party of General Liddell's command co-operated from the opposite bank. We lost 2 killed and 4 wounded. Mean time Lieutenant-Colonel Caudle, with 200 sharpshooters and Cornay's battery, had been posted at the junction of Cane and Red Rivers to intercept the boats on their way down. At about 6 p. m. the leading gun-boat and one transport came down. Our fire speedily silenced and crippled the gun-boat, and a shot striking the boiler of the transport exploded it. Under cover of the steam the gun-boat drifted out of fire. The loss of life on the transport was fearful. Over 100 bodies were brought on shore and about 80 others will die from the effects of the scalding steam. The transport was crowded with the crew of the large iron-clad, removed before she was blown up at Montgomery. We saved some valuable stores from the transport, and I ordered her sunk in the channel to prevent the escape of the two gun-boats and transport still above. We had but 2 casualties in this affair, 1 wounded and the gallant Captain Cornay killed. As I am writing I hear the heavy report of the gun-boat firing at the same point. I hope to report the capture or destruction of these boats. About the time of the attack at Montgomery Colonel Brent, with Benton's and a section of Nettles' batteries, assisted by a few sharpshooters, opened on an eight-gun wooden boat at Deloach's

Bluff. The gun-boat soon got tired and ran in directly under the bluff, so as to prevent our guns reaching her. Three other boats came up at dark to her assistance. As our guns there were too light to effect much I left sharpshooters to keep up the fire until Cornay's and Barnes' 12-pounders can be placed there. We lost 2 killed and several wounded. Should the two siege guns from Shreveport ever reach me the business of the gun-boats will be soon settled. I omitted to mention that the iron-clad destroyed by the enemy at Montgomery blocks the channel. Should the engineers succeed in removing the Falls City, I request they come down to Montgomery and open the channel there. General Liddell is opposite to me. On the 24th, at the head of a portion of his command, he dashed into Pineville, opposite Alexandria, killed 8 of the enemy, wounded and captured others, and drove the remainder into and across the river. He then opened on the gun-boats at the landing and stampeded the place.

My dispositions for the day are to drive the enemy behind his works around Alexandria, occupy both the Rapides and Boeuf Valleys with my cavalry, and keep up a constant fight with the gun-boats, following them with sharpshooters and killing every man who exposes himself on them. I do not wish to exhaust the ammunition of my field guns on the gun-boats. Polignac's division of infantry (2,000 bayonets) will be at McNutt's Hill. A brigade of cavalry has been pushed to David's Ferry, near Marksville, with a battery to block the enemy's communications. A squadron has pushed on to Simsport to prevent the escape of negroes and other property in that direction. Perhaps we may capture a pontoon there, very much needed by me. The cavalry sent to the Teche has cleared the country west of Berwick Bay. Vincent has been ordered to send small parties to burn the bridges on the railroad east of the bay and move his main body at once to Marksville and Simsport. I trust the above will meet the approval of department headquarters. When my limited means are considered I hope it will be admitted that no time has been lost since I resumed the command in front on the morning of the 22d instant. I beg to acknowledge the receipt of General Orders, No. 18, congratulating the army under my command on the late success at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill. This is the only instance within my recollection in which the officer commanding an army was entirely ignored in an order of the kind. I note this because it is singular in itself and in keeping with the treatment I have lately experienced from the general commanding this department. Whatever place my name is destined to occupy in the golden book of the Republic I expect to engrave it there with the point of my sword. I regret to report that my health is not good. A low fever has much prostrated me, but I have been able to keep the saddle. The general commanding the department may rest assured that I will persevere to the end. No injustice, no unkindness, even from a quarter whence I had some reason to expect the reverse, will turn me from the great work before me. The cause for which I have sacrificed fortune is paramount, and shall have my life if need be.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, Monett's Ferry, April 27, 1864.

COLONEL: Referring to my communication of this morning, I have now the honor to report the capture of another large transport at the junction of Cane and Red Rivers and the clearance of gun-boats in the Red River as far down as Cotile. We suffered no loss in the engagement to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Shreveport.

The iron-clad blown up by the enemy yesterday is ascertained to to have been the Eastport. She had a small transport lashed to her, which was destroyed with her. Two very fine pumps had been removed from her to the captured transports, and will prove useful in some of the departments at Shreveport. I shall leave a small guard to protect them until you order them up.

Respectfully,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, April 29, 1864.

On yesterday the fighting commenced at dawn and continued until night. The enemy steadily driven all day; some prisoners taken. His rear 3½ miles from Alexandria on the Rapides road. I am trying to convert one of the captured transports into a fire-ship to burn the fleet now crowded above the upper falls. Enemy working hard moving stores below the falls. River below difficult to navigate.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA.
In the Field, near Alexandria, May 2, 1864.

COLONEL: Yesterday morning the enemy attacked General Liddell above Pineville, on the north bank of Red River, and after a short action was repulsed with loss in killed and prisoners. A division of cavalry under Bagby, with a section of artillery, was ordered to attack on the Bayou Robert road at dawn. I have not received the report of their operations. General Steele was ordered to attack on the Rapides road an hour before dark in order to drive in pickets on the main body and connect with Bagby on the Robert road. He attacked and drove in the enemy to within 3 miles of town, but sent no report of his connection with Bagby. Major, with a division of cavalry and J. A. A. West's battery, is in position on Red River 30 miles below Alexandria, and has already captured a valuable transport, which he destroyed instead of sinking in the channel as directed. I have a squadron at De Russy and one at Simsport. Captain Ratliff, a

scout whom I left on the Grossetete, has kept the enemy out of that whole country, driven them into Baton Rouge and Plaquemine, and burned 3,000 bales of cotton. I only left him 10 men, and he has recruited two strong companies from the enemy's lines. The cavalry sent to the Teche has returned, leaving a small party at Berwick Bay. Many jayhawkers were killed, much cotton en route to New Orleans taken, and the enemy driven across the bay with heavy loss in arms and stores destroyed in a hasty retreat. I have opened communication with Lieutenant-General Polk and Brig. Gen. Tom Taylor, commanding forces in the rear of Port Hudson. From Vicksburg to New Orleans and Berwick Bay the enemy have stripped all troops, leaving weak negro garrisons. McPherson, with a portion of the Seventeenth Corps, has reached Cairo en route for Chattanooga. Gold on 13th at New York, 1.75. Boats with forage and subsistence have reached Cotile; also, pontoon under charge of Lieutenant Broaddus, an energetic officer. Much need of artillery horses, and request that those ordered may be pushed on without delay.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Last day's fighting on the Rapides road quite animated. Enemy left his dead on the field and lost his camp equipage. Among the prisoners taken was Major Owen, inspector of cavalry. Many houses were saved from burning by our troops; Mrs. Innis' sugar-house among others, with 160 hogsheads of sugar and much molasses.

R. T.,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Alexandria, May 4, 1864.

COLONEL: For two days past the fighting has been principally on the Bayou Robert road, between the Chambers plantation and Alexandria. Last evening the enemy was driven beyond Governor Moore's plantation. The force in Alexandria has been increased by one brigade from Matagorda, under McClernand. Banks has probably gone to New Orleans. Prisoners from the Matagorda brigade were taken yesterday. I have taken steps to intercept and beat any other troops from Texas. Among the prisoners taken by General Liddell is Captain Hall, assistant adjutant-general on General Banks' staff. This officer states positively that had we held the position at Monett's a few hours longer his army would have surrendered, and there are other evidences of the truth of this. The enemy is burning everything in his reach around Alexandria. Nothing has been heard of the re-enforcements from General Magruder which he advised me were en route for the Sabine.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

The want of artillery horses presses heavily, and ammunition for Enfield rifles and artillery is running very short.

R. T.,
Major-General.

N. B.—There are nine gun-boats and one transport still above the falls, and the enemy working to get them over by damming.

R. T.,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report brisk fighting yesterday on the Bayou Robert road, from 6 to 12 miles distant from Alexandria, in which the enemy showed considerable force. He has still nine gun-boats above the falls, and has sunk several boats below to act as a dam to deepen the water in the channel. On the evening of the 3d, General Major captured near David's Ferry a transport having on board the One hundred and twentieth Ohio Regiment, coming up. Two hundred and seventy-odd prisoners were taken, among them all the regimental field officers, and many were killed and wounded. The boat was sunk across the channel of the river, and now effectually blocks it. In this fight a gun-boat and another transport were damaged and driven off.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Alexandria, May 6, 1864.

COLONEL: The operations of yesterday were important. At daylight the enemy attacked our advance on the Rapides road 4 miles from Alexandria. His force consisted of some 3,000 or 4,000 infantry and two batteries. General Steele, with Parsons' and Carter's cavalry and Moseley's battery, contested every inch of ground (retiring 5 miles) from dawn until 5.30 p. m., when the enemy suddenly retreated toward Alexandria. Our loss was perhaps 50 killed and wounded; the enemy's greater, as he advanced across open fields against selected positions. Late in the evening a gun-boat stole up the river, expecting doubtless to destroy my supply-boats at Cotile, but these were removed up the river in the afternoon. At Chambers', on the Bayou Robert road, 11 miles from Alexandria, the fighting began at early dawn and was brisk and well sustained for several hours, when the enemy gave way and retreated toward Alexandria, with a brigade of cavalry in pursuit. The forces engaged on our part were Bee's division, consisting of Bagby's, Debray's, and Vincent's cavalry brigades, with Nettles' and Benton's batteries. Full particulars not yet received. During the night of the 4th and 5th, Major's division, consisting of Hardeman's and Lane's brigades of cavalry, with J. A. A. West's battery, attacked near Fort De Russy

two gun-boats and a transport. One gun-boat was blown up by the enemy to prevent her falling into our hands; the other, with the transport, was captured, and at the date of his report General Major was sinking them across the channel. Polignac is now in supporting distance of Major, and the two siege guns and Barnes' battery of 12-pounders will be in position near Fort De Russy to-day, which will make lower Red River a *mare clausum*. Polignac and Major have orders to attack at once every force attempting to reach Alexandria. They can beat any re-enforcements Banks can obtain. Should the enemy retreat from Alexandria with his whole army they will drive off all cattle and hogs on his line of march. I have a short road through the swamp from Bee to Major and Polignac, so that support can be given. On the north bank of the Red River Liddell has driven the enemy into Pineville, where he is fortified, and has orders to keep up a continual fire of sharpshooters on the working parties at the upper falls, where the enemy is building dams and locks to pass over his fleet of monitors and iron-clads, some eleven in number. One large iron-clad lies opposite Alexandria below the falls. There is not probably water enough in the channel to enable her to go down. Liddell has parties scouting to Black River to prevent communication with Natchez and capture any persons who may escape from the gun-boats and transports near De Russy. Since I reached the front on the night of the 21st ultimo the enemy has been driven 75 miles and fought over every mile of the distance both on land and water. We have destroyed or captured 1 heavy iron-clad, 2 wooden gun-boats, and 7 transports, and have killed, wounded, or captured at least 2,000 of the enemy. All I ask to complete the work is a supply of horses for artillery and ammunition for Enfield rifles and 3-inch and 12-pounder guns.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Alexandria, May 7, 1864.

COLONEL: At daylight on yesterday it was found the enemy had fallen back from our front on the Rapides, and an attack at the Lamourie drove the enemy's rear at once to Governor Moore's lower plantation. Prisoners taken on the Rapides were from General Lawler's brigade, from Matagorda; those on the Robert were from the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, from Vicksburg. Everything has been hurried to the river, where the next struggle and the final one will be. I will hold the river to the last man and last grain of powder. It is draining the enemy's life blood. One regiment of infantry and a small body of cavalry were approaching our battery yesterday from above. This is probably the advance of a heavy force to open the river. Seven boats reached Fort De Russy from below; three with troops just from Matagorda, the others with stores. Last report states they had gone back. I have made dispositions to throw everything upon any force from below and crush it at once. Enemy is on quarter rations in Alexandria, and is entirely without forage for the 10,000 animals he has there. There is great

discontent among the troops, and a few hours must decide the great stake. Two good regiments of cavalry to re-enforce my little command on the north side of Red River would insure success. My best guns are being sent to the rear for want of ammunition, viz, 3-inch and 12-pounder. I presume there is no more to be had. The fleet at Alexandria consists of thirteen iron-clads, two tin-clads, and twenty-eight transports. This is the prize for which we have been playing, and the world will admit that our efforts have been worthy of success, even though they ultimately fail.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

P. S.—Forage and subsistence of every kind have been removed beyond the enemy's reach. Rigid orders are given to destroy anything useful that can fall into his hands. We will play the game the Russians played in the retreat from Moscow.

R. T.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Alexandria, May 8, 1864.

COLONEL: On yesterday and the day before brisk skirmishing continued during the day on the Rapides road and some severe fighting on the Robert and Boeuf. I am swinging around on Paul's pine wood place as a pivot and massing everything on the Boeuf and river below Alexandria. The main struggle is for the river—vital for the enemy. The Lamourie separates our lines on the Boeuf. After heavy cannonading for some hours the enemy advanced on our line. His attack threw both our flanks into some confusion, when Bagby led a charge on the center and drove him across the Lamourie. Our line occupied the scene of fighting and slept last night on their arms. Polignac commanded on the field. Prisoners captured were of the Seventeenth Corps, some of the Vicksburg troops. The gun-boats captured below were the Signal and Covington, each mounting eight guns. We have recovered the guns of one boat and will eventually recover the others. In this connection I have been informed the guns of the Eastport are in the river near Montgomery. Perhaps they may be valuable. I renew my appeal for artillery horses and ammunition. For sixteen successive days fighting has been continuous. Under these circumstances men and material must be consumed.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Lecompte, May 10, 1864.

COLONEL: On yesterday some skirmishing took place on the Rapides road some 5 miles from Alexandria. Our position on the river was much strengthened at Wilson's and Fort De Russy. At the

former position is Major with his division; at the latter Bagby with his, lately Bee's, who has been relieved from duty with this army. The enemy were driven to within 3 miles of Alexandria along the river, Hardeman's advance squadron charging 600 Yankee cavalry, driving them in and taking prisoners. Roads are being cut to connect Major and Bagby by short lines so as to concentrate rapidly on either position. Four of the guns from the Signal are ready for action with a good supply of captured ammunition. The blockade of the river has continued for ten days complete, every boat, whether gun-boat or transport, having been taken or destroyed that attempted the passage. For four days no attempt has been made. This morning at dawn I attacked the enemy at the lower Chambers place, on the Bayou Robert, with Steele's division of cavalry, supported by Polignac's infantry. Steele drove the enemy rapidly to Governor Moore's upper place, capturing cooking utensils, tents, and horses, and followed hard until he found their infantry displayed in line. To-night, about an hour before dark, I will renew the attack, using Steele, Polignac, and artillery, and try and drive him beyond John Williams'. This will connect Steele's pickets on the Bayou Robert with Major's on the river road and prevent the enemy from camping on the high ground of Bayou Robert. In case we find too much strength we can easily draw off at so late an hour without risk of being followed. On the Rapides road I have but one regiment of cavalry and a section [of artillery]. Pickets connect through the swamp with Bayou Robert. All cattle, &c., have been removed from the Rapides country for 18 miles, so the enemy has no object in pushing in that direction even if he dared to do so; the whole country to the Gulf and Sabine being open to me, I have no line of supplies or base of operations, and can move where I please. On the north side of Red River everything is watched from above Pineville to opposite Major's batteries, where communication is established. All the roads from Pineville to the Ouachita and Black Rivers have been ordered to be blocked by felling trees across them and destroying the bridges on the Flaxon and other streams. Thus we have a continuous line of pickets inclosing Banks' army and Porter's fleet, and they are as closely besieged as was ever Vicksburg. Every day the enemy is attacked and driven on some road and kept continually harassed by feints, driving in pickets, &c. Thus he is expecting an assault every moment, and is uncertain of the direction whence it may come.

To keep this up, with my little force of scarce 6,000 men, I am compelled to "eke out the lion's skin with the fox's hide." On several occasions we have forced the enemy from strong positions by sending drummers to beat calls, lighting camp-fires, blowing bugles, and rolling empty wagons over fence rails. If we force the enemy from Bayou Robert to-night I will move Polignac at once to Marksville. From Marksville he can support Major or Bagby, throw himself with them upon any force attempting to reach Alexandria from Simsport, and will be 20 miles nearer Trinity than Banks at Alexandria. Should Banks retreat by Trinity on Natchez, the cavalry will cross from their present position and strike in on his line through the pine woods. Polignac, with all the artillery, will move rapidly to the mouth of Red River and salute whatever portion of the invading army may seek to reach New Orleans by the Mississippi River. Arrangements for crossing both the Red and Atchafalaya Rivers have been made.

From present appearances the end is drawing near. Banks' cavalry is almost destroyed. His troops are disheartened, sullen, and disinclined to fight. He is short of provisions and almost entirely without forage. All captured horses are like scarecrows and show want of forage. Sickness prevails to an unprecedented extent, and as he has no means of removing the sick or wounded much depression is caused among the well. The lower river is still falling slowly. I scarcely need repeat that it will be held to the last extremity against an attempt to open it.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, near Cheneyville, May 12, 1864.

COLONEL: Yesterday the enemy moved a heavy column of troops down the west bank of the river, and reached a point 14 miles below Alexandria, where they were attacked by Hardeman's brigade, of Major's division, and driven back 7 miles. No change on the Bayous Robert or Rapides, where some slight skirmishing has taken place. Two iron-clads are lying near Fort De Russy. Since yesterday morning our sharpshooters have been shooting every man that exposes himself on board, the gun-boats replying with heavy shelling without danger to us. The Mississippi is rising very rapidly, and will soon overflow the country east of the Atchafalaya through the Morganza crevasse.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 14, 1864.

COLONEL: The enemy left Alexandria after midday to-day, burning the place. Two houses only reported left between the ice-house and railroad. Heavy fighting all day with gun-boats and troops. Steele's division in their rear; Polignac, Major, and Bagby in front and on flank; Harrison, re-enforced by Likens' regiment, on north side of Red River. We have experienced some loss, but will continue to fight them to the bank of the Mississippi, and beyond, if possible.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 14, 1864.

COLONEL: On yesterday the enemy moved heavy masses down the river road from Alexandria, the head of his column reaching a point 20 miles below last night. Three hundred and thirteen wagons accompanied the column. Heavy explosions were heard at Alexandria during the day and dense clouds of smoke enveloped [it]. Twenty-three transports and two gun-boats had up steam and the river was full of floating masses of cotton. Hardeman skirmished briskly with their advance, while Steele from the Bayous Rapides and Robert was driving their rear and attacking their flank. Reports are so contradictory of the condition of the dam at the falls that I do not know what to believe. It appears certain, however, that a portion at least of the fleet has passed over, and perhaps all. This morning heavy firing lasted for two hours along the river, the heavy guns of gun-boats taking part. My troops are so disposed as to harass the enemy in rear and flank and attack the boats from both banks of the river. Having no frontier which offers advantage to a small force, I have not the pretension to attempt to fight a general battle with my little force against four times their number, with one flank resting on Red River supported by gun-boats; but I hope to force the enemy to destroy large amounts of property, and harass and worry him until he reaches the Mississippi. The troops from above cannot reach me in time to be of use in this campaign. I shall direct General Walker to halt at Campti and rest and reorganize his command. His presence here at the right time would have insured the most brilliant results; but such opportunities never occur twice in the same campaign. As soon as Banks reaches the Mississippi River he will lose the troops of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps loaned him by Sherman. Even if he withdraws every man from Texas, which he will do, he cannot do more than maintain himself in New Orleans. Polignac, if strengthened by Thomas' brigade and a good brigade of cavalry, can occupy and hold the La Fourche, and with any co-operation from the other side entirely prevent the navigation of the Mississippi River. Everything else should be directed to Missouri. There can be no doubt that this is the last campaign of the war. Nothing but the fall of Richmond can prolong the struggle after the summer campaign. The fate of Missouri will have to be decided by diplomacy or the sword. If settled by the latter, it fixes the question of Tennessee and simplifies that of Kentucky. Ten thousand horses and an equal force of infantry can reach the Missouri River before the summer passes. I respectfully offer these suggestions, esteeming it a duty to do so.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 16, 1864.

COLONEL: On yesterday the fighting was well sustained. Steele's division pressed the enemy's rear and flank on the river road below Alexandria, while Bagby's division, afterward re-enforced by Major,

beat back several times the head of his column as it attempted to debouche on the high ground of the Marksville Prairie from the Choctaw Swamp. Heavy loss was inflicted on the enemy, Bagby skillfully masking his artillery and using it at short range. Late in the evening the enemy turned the position by bringing up his masses, and we fell back to Mansura, Marksville being occupied by him during the night. At early dawn this morning skirmishing began along our line, of which Mansura was the center, Bagby and Major, with nineteen pieces of artillery, holding the right, and Polignac, re-enforced by two regiments of cavalry under Debray, the left, with thirteen pieces of artillery, including two 30-pounder Parrotts. The broad, open prairie, smooth as a billiard table, afforded an admirable field for artillery practice, and most of our guns were 3-inch rifle and 10-pounder Parrotts captured from the enemy. About 6 a. m. the action became general, the enemy bringing up masses of infantry with several batteries. Several attempts to turn our right were signally repulsed, as were the efforts to advance on our center. At 10 a. m. long lines of infantry commenced demonstrations on our left, the pivot of the position, our trains being behind that flank near Evergreen. This rendered the position dangerous, as the enemy had probably 16,000 men on the field, and perhaps more. Our men withdrew with the steadiness of veterans on parade, and the road to Simsport was left open to the foe. Our artillery was most admirably served, and told heavily on the long lines and heavy columns of the enemy, while our short, thin line offered a small mark. As soon as the enemy resumed his retreat a division of cavalry was sent to attack him at the Moreauville Cut-off, while the remainder of my little force harassed his rear and flank. I have some men in a good position on the east bank of the Atchafalaya to impede the passage of that stream and inflict loss on the fleeing foe. No report from Colonel Harrison for two days, but as he has had excellent opportunities of worrying the fleet I hope to have a good account of him. The campaign here will close to-morrow, when I will await for a day or two the decision of department headquarters on my suggestion of a Missouri movement. Not hearing, I will order down Walker's division, throw myself into the La Fourche, confine the enemy to New Orleans, and close the navigation of the Mississippi.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Mississippi Department.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 18, 1864.

COLONEL: Yesterday was a hard day for the enemy. Early in the morning his rear was vigorously attacked and driven by General Wharton below Mansura. Between Mansura and Moreauville Debray was ambushed in a wood some 600 yards from the road with two regiments and a battery. As the enemy formed heavy line to resist Wharton, Debray opened, enfilading their line. Many were killed and wounded, and Wharton's charge captured a good many prisoners. At the same time, Colonel Yager, with his own and the

Second Louisiana Regiment, cut in on the wagon train near Yellow Bayou, dispersed the negro guard, killed many of the white officers, and destroyed much property. The wagons could not be brought off, as there was no exit except by the De Glaize road, on which was the Sixteenth Corps, forming the rear guard of Banks' army. At dark the whole force had been driven pell-mell across Yellow Bayou, 4 miles from Simsport. Many were left on this side scattered through the De Glaize swamps. These will be hunted out to-day. We began operations this morning at dawn, and will continue them as long as the enemy is within reach. A report of Colonel Harrison's operations on the north bank has been received. He kept up a continued fire on the crowded transports from Pineville to Black River, inflicting heavy loss of life on the enemy. He was in position to have destroyed the transports if his artillery had not been ordered to Arkansas. The campaign will probably close to-day at Simsport, its point of departure, after nearly seventy days of uninterrupted fighting. Nothing but the withdrawal of Walker's division from me has prevented the capture of Banks' army and the destruction of Porter's fleet. I feel bitterly about this, because my army has been robbed of the just measure of its glory and the country of the most brilliant and complete success of the war. No gun-boats remain in the Red River. The iron-clads which escaped from Alexandria were dismantled and stripped of their armor. Much iron can be saved for the department. Many heavy guns were destroyed, also, and numbers of wagons burned. Stone coal, cotton, and other valuable property was abandoned. If the Atchafalaya Swamp is passable I will cross that stream, establish myself on the Grossetete and Maringouin, where forage abounds for the cavalry, and blockade the Mississippi with my batteries. As soon as the water falls I will move down and occupy and hold the La Fourche Valley, where the army can be subsisted.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, Moreauville, May 19, 1864.

COLONEL: Yesterday a very severe action occurred near Yellow Bayou between my forces and the fresh troops of the enemy recently arrived from Texas. We drove the enemy handsomely on our right, killing all the horses and most of the gunners of a battery, and forcing the enemy to abandon it. On the left, near the De Glaize, we were severely repulsed and were forced to arrest the progress of our right. General Polignac restored order in his left brigade after a time, McMahan's battery preventing the enemy from following up his success in this part of the field. We held the field, on which the enemy, who fell back at once, left 30 dead. Our loss will reach 500, of which 30 were killed, 50 severely wounded, and some hundred prisoners taken from the left brigade. The remaining wounds are of a trifling character. Among the killed I regret to include Colonel Stone, of Polignac's old brigade, a gallant and promising officer. This morning the enemy was close under the guns of his fleet at

Simsport and will in all probability get away to-night. A regiment has been sent to the left bank of the De Glaize to annoy him between Simsport and Old River. I have had no report of their operations. The campaign may be considered as closed here, where it opened on the 12th of last March. It has been a most arduous one to me and to this army. The limits of human and equine endurance have been reached. If the water permits I will cross the Atchafalaya, bring up Walker's division and push for the La Fourche, and blockade the Mississippi River.

Your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
Alexandria, May 23, 1864.

COLONEL: On the night of the 20th and 21st instant the enemy completed their crossing of the Atchafalaya, and the country south of Red River is now rid of his presence. All previous operations have been reported to you. The communication of the general commanding of the 17th instant reached me on yesterday on my arrival at this place.* I am suffering from sickness and exhaustion, and as soon as I am strong enough will reply thereto. My cavalry force is now crossing the Atchafalaya, and Walker's division is resting at this place. The usual refrain of want of clothing and shoes is being sung. I hope the Clothing Bureau will be able at once to put a stop to it. My batteries are rendered very inefficient for want of artillery horses. Unless the most stringent measures are adopted and their wants supplied, it will be impossible to act upon the defensive, much less upon the offensive. It is out of the question to fit our batteries with horses from the country overrun by the enemy, and I must rely upon the northern portion of the department, which has been protected from invasion, to furnish the army with the necessary means to punish the enemy still further. During the last twelve months I have been constantly urging the necessity of furnishing artillery horses and the absolute need of supplying them. I cannot too urgently impress upon department headquarters the vital importance of immediate action which will supply my wants in this respect. I have not received a horse for my batteries from department headquarters since I have been in command of this district, notwithstanding my constant appeals and the urgent wants of my artillery.

Major-General Canby arrived in New Orleans on the 19th instant and relieved General Banks of the command of the Department of the Gulf.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See p. 538.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DIST. OF WEST LOUISIANA,
No. —. } *Mansfield, La., April* 11, 1864.

Soldiers of the Army of West Louisiana:

At last have your patience and your devotion been rewarded. Condemned for many days to retreat before an overwhelming force, as soon as your re-enforcements reached you you turned upon the foe. No language but that of simple narrative should recount your deeds. On April 8, you fought the battle of Mansfield. Never in war was a more complete victory won. Attacking the enemy with the utmost alacrity when the order was given, the result was not for a moment doubtful. The enemy was driven from every position, his artillery captured, his men routed. In vain were fresh troops brought up. Your magnificent line, like a resistless wave, swept everything before it. Night alone stopped your advance. Twenty-one pieces of artillery, 2,500 prisoners, many stand of colors, 250 wagons attest your success over the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Army Corps. On the 9th, you took up the pursuit and pressed it with vigor. For 12 miles prisoners, scattered arms, burning wagons proved how well the previous day's work had been done by the soldiers of Texas and Louisiana. The gallant divisions from Missouri and Arkansas (unfortunately absent on the 8th) marched 45 miles in two days to share the glories of Pleasant Hill. This was emphatically the soldier's victory. In spite of the strength of the enemy's position, held by fresh troops of the Sixteenth Corps, your valor and devotion triumphed over all. Darkness closed one of the hottest fights of the war. The morning of the 10th dawned upon a fleeing foe, with our cavalry in pursuit, capturing prisoners at every step. These glorious victories were most dearly won. A list of the heroic dead would sadden the sternest heart. A visit to the hospitals would move the sympathy of the most unfeeling. The memory of our dead will live as long as noble deeds are cherished on earth. The consciousness of duty well performed will alleviate the sufferings of the wounded. Soldiers! from a thousand homes thanks will ascend to the God of battles for your victories. Tender wives and fond mothers will repose in safety behind the breast-works of your valor. No fears will be felt that the hated foe will desecrate their homes by his presence. This is your reward; but much remains to be done. Strict discipline, prompt obedience to orders, cheerful endurance of privations, will alone insure our independence.

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General, Commanding.

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GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF WEST LOUISIANA,
No. —. } *In the Field, April* 26, 1864.

The major-general commanding desires to express to the army his appreciation of the distinguished courage and energy displayed by Major-General Wharton while in pursuit of the enemy on the 22d, 23d, and 24th instant. In daring, in vigor, and in soldiership the operations of these three days will compare favorably with any of the war. Coming to us with crown adorned with the laurels of

many a hard-fought field, Major-General Wharton takes place at once in the front rank of Texas leaders. The major-general commanding is gratified to learn that Brigadier-General Steele, Colonel Parsons, Captain Barnes, Barnes' battery, and their officers and men have deserved the commendations of General Wharton.

By command of Major-General Taylor:

E. SURGET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[No. 11.]—JOINT RESOLUTION of thanks to Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor and the officers and men of his command.

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the thanks of Congress are eminently due, and are hereby most cordially tendered, to Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor, and the officers and men of his command, for the brilliant successes obtained by them over the enemy in Louisiana during the past year, and particularly for the victories at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, on the 8th and 9th of April last, and their subsequent operations against the retreating army of the Federal General Banks, in the valley of the Red River.

Resolved, That the President communicate this resolution to Major-General Taylor and the officers and men of his command.

Approved June 10, 1864.

No. 96.

Reports of Maj. Gen. John G. Walker, C. S. Army, commanding division, of operations March 12–19.

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION,
Marksville, March 12, 1864—7 p. m.

GENERAL: Captain McNelly has just reached here from Simsport, and reports that the enemy had six gun-boats and two transports at Simsport, and that they were landing troops when he left, about an hour by sun this evening. He says that the pickets above Simsport reported that the entire fleet of gun-boats and a large number of transports were coming down the Atchafalaya when he left. This is doubtless Sherman's force from Vicksburg, as they certainly did not come up the Mississippi. I shall move down at daylight in the morning with Randal's and Hawes' brigades to support Scurry, who is in position on Yellow Bayou. That position, however, is untenable, as it can be turned in this low stage of water. I am embarrassed to know how to cover Fort De Russy, as against such a force as the enemy evidently has it would be extremely hazardous to risk an engagement on this island around Marksville, out of which there is no egress except by the bridge over Bayou Du Lac. I shall retain the steam-boat Countess here to carry off whatever may be necessary to move, and send her off at the last moment that it will be safe for her to remain.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. R. TAYLOR,
Commanding District of West Louisiana.

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION,
Near Carroll Jones', Parish of Rapides, La., March 19, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding the District of West Louisiana, that on the 12th instant I was informed by Brigadier-General Scurry, commanding on Yellow Bayou, 4 miles from Simsport, that the enemy had landed a small force that day at the latter point. I received this information at 5 p. m., which I immediately dispatched to you. At 7 p. m. of the same day I dispatched to you the subsequently received intelligence from General Scurry that the enemy's force was very large, occupying twenty-seven transports and escorted by fourteen gun-boats, and that they were then debarking at Simsport with their artillery and trains.*

Upon the first information General Scurry had moved down in the direction of the Atchafalaya with the purpose of attacking the enemy and driving him aboard of his vessels, but subsequent and more correct information as to the strength of the enemy induced him to fall back to Moreauville, 11 miles west of Simsport. The defenses constructed with so much labor at Yellow Bayou were rendered useless by the drying up of the swamps on the flanks, which were depended on as the chief means of defense. To avoid being cut off from Marksville by the enemy coming by a practicable road from Old River to the big bend of the De Glaize, this movement to the rear became necessary.

The night of the 12th was spent in withdrawing my infantry and light artillery from a point on Red River 7 or 8 miles below Fort De Russy and making preparations to march to General Scurry's support, who was instructed to delay the march of the enemy as much as possible, and in case he was pressed to fall back to the west of Bayou De Glaize and take position at the long bridge at Bout De Bayou, to resist the enemy's advance until I could re-enforce him.

Upon reaching Bout De Bayou the next morning I found that General Scurry had fallen back across the De Glaize and was taking position at the long bridge already mentioned. All the cavalry under my command having been cut off in Pointe Coupée by the entrance into the Atchafalaya of the enemy's gun-boats, I was wholly without the means of gaining information, as the enemy kept his front well covered by his small cavalry force. Late that night I received intelligence from Lieutenant Robinson, whom I had sent out to gain information, that from citizens he had learned that the enemy were re-embarking for the purpose of ascending Red River.

Soon after daylight on the 14th, this information was proven incorrect by hearing the sound of numerous drums in the distance in the direction of Simsport, and as the morning advanced it became apparent that the enemy in force was approaching our position. As to his strength we could only form a conjecture, as he kept his front too well covered to permit our obtaining a view of his infantry column, until at about 8.30 o'clock in the morning it reached Moreauville, and turning to the left defiled along the banks of the De Glaize in full view of our pickets, whom they drove in by a musketry and artillery fire. His column, then exposed to our view, extended for 2½ miles along the banks of the De Glaize, through the village of Moreauville, and disappeared in the cut-off in the direction of the Atchafalaya. The force thus displayed consisted, as near as could be arrived

* See p. 597.

at, of 15,000 to 17,000 infantry, thirty or forty pieces of light artillery, and a small cavalry force not exceeding 300. The enemy had no subsistence or baggage trains, and only his ordnance and hospital wagons.

In taking position at Bout De Bayou it had been my intention to give the enemy battle and hold him in check, at least until Mouton's brigade, which I supposed would reach me that night, could come up; but I soon found that the force of enemy was so overwhelming that my small division, numbering but 3,828 muskets present and twelve light guns, was entirely unequal to the task of checking more than momentarily the advance of the enemy. The position I had chosen offered some advantages against an enemy not so unequal in numbers, and if the swamps had been covered with water, as they usually are at this season of the year, even against a largely superior force; but the unusual dryness of the season had rendered the swampy grounds above and below Bout De Bayou bridge passable for artillery and trains, and rendered my position extremely hazardous, inasmuch as I was on [an] island formed by Red River, Bayous De Glaize, Du Lac, and Choctaw, the only outlet to which was Bayou Du Lac bridge, 8 miles to the south. In the event of the enemy turning my right, which he could easily have done, my march to Bayou Du Lac would have been intercepted and the destruction of my command inevitable. To have fallen back toward Marksville in order to cover Fort De Russy would equally have insured the disaster. By falling back, however, toward Bayou Du Lac and watching the movements of the enemy I was in hopes of finding an opportunity of attacking him should he march upon Fort De Russy with less than his entire strength. The prairie country through which the enemy would pass would give me an excellent opportunity for observing his movements and estimating his strength. All these considerations induced me to adopt the only course not dictated by folly or madness; and however mortifying it might be to abandon our brave companions in arms at Fort De Russy to their fate, it became my imperative duty to do so rather than attempt assistance, which at best could delay this danger but a few hours, and without a miracle from Heaven would insure the certain destruction of my entire command. I have never had a doubt about the propriety of my course, but do not expect to escape malignant criticisms. If they come from responsible sources I know how to meet them, and only ask that they be made in an open manner.

I commenced my movement to Bayou Du Lac bridge at 10 a. m. on the 14th, and not until the enemy, having repaired the burnt bridge over Bayou De Glaize, had commenced crossing his infantry in force. The road followed by my division diverges from the Marksville and Simsport road at Mansura. We retired leisurely and in perfect order along this road, and except by a body of 60 or 80 of the enemy's cavalry, who drove in on the infantry the few mounted officers who, in default of cavalry, were acting as a cavalry rear guard, our march was uninterrupted.

The enemy, on reaching the intersection of the road on which he was marching and that by which we were retiring, moved straight on to Fort De Russy without halting, his long column well closed up and leaving no stragglers behind. Moving slowly and halting frequently to watch the movements of the enemy, the rear of my column did not reach Bayou Du Lac until 4 p. m.

In the mean time I had been joined by a company of the Second

Louisiana Cavalry and a portion of Faulkner's company, whom I dispatched at once toward Marksville and Mansura to gain information. From the latter direction I learned that the enemy's forces were under the command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, and was a portion of Sherman's late Mississippi expedition, and that their force was about 15,000 infantry, with a large park of artillery. From the direction of Marksville I learned that the enemy's column reached Marksville about 3 o'clock, and that a column of about 4,000 men pushed directly through to Fort De Russy, while the greater portion of the command halted in the immediate vicinity of the village. Later I learned that the fort was invested about 4 p. m., and that a fierce musket and artillery fire was kept up until about sundown, when it ceased, and from the shout of the enemy it was supposed the fort then surrendered.

Up to this time I was in hopes that the holding out of the fort for a day or two would enable me to be re-enforced by Mouton's and Polignac's brigades, when we could have attacked the covering force of the enemy at Marksville, and perhaps raised the siege of Fort De Russy, although even with this re-enforcement the superiority of the enemy would have been too great to give more than the faintest hope of success. Being now satisfied, however, that Fort De Russy had surrendered, it became a matter of the utmost importance for my command to reach the Natchitoches road at this point in advance of the enemy, or otherwise we would necessarily be thrown back into the desert between the Calcasieu and Sabine, when the only escape from starvation would be a hasty retreat into Texas by way of Niblett's Bluff. The enemy, having now the control of the river, could re-embark his forces, and removing them rapidly to Alexandria could reach this point by a march of 30 miles, whereas my division, being compelled to make a long detour through the pine woods, could not reach this point in less than four or five days of ordinary marching, it being over 75 miles. Under these circumstances I thought it my duty to take up my line of march at once without awaiting instructions, which I did about 10 p. m. on the 14th, and on the next morning arrived at Lloyd's Bridge with my whole force, including Mouton's brigade, commanded by Colonel Gray, which I found encamped on the Huffpower, 19 miles south of Fort De Russy, under orders to re-enforce my division.

I was informed by Colonel Gray that he received the order to march to my assistance at 5 p. m. on the 13th, but too late to march that day, having had no previous intimation to be in readiness.

I would respectfully ask the attention of the major-general commanding to these facts and dates, inasmuch as there seems to have been some unaccountable delay, since the information in regard to the landing of the enemy in force reached your headquarters during the night of the 12th, and were acknowledged at 6 o'clock on the next morning, and yet Mouton's brigade received no orders to march until 5 o'clock on the 13th, and did not march until 5 a. m. on the 14th.

Since reaching this camp two officers (Captain Adams, of the Twenty-eighth Texas Cavalry, dismounted, and Lieutenant Jennings, of the Thirteenth Texas Cavalry, dismounted), who formed a portion of the garrison at Fort De Russy, have come in, bringing in 21 men, with their arms and accouterments. They represent that the fort was attacked from the direction of Marksville about 4 p. m. on the 14th; that the enemy planted batteries at three or four points

and soon rendered the water battery (where they were) untenable; that but one of the guns in the water battery could be trailed upon the enemy, and from which but one shot was fired, and that was from the 32-pounder rifle; that in consequence of the heavy artillery fire into the rear of the water battery they were forced into the excavations in front of the parapet, where they remained for some time, until it became apparent that they could do nothing and that in a few minutes they would be surrounded and captured. Under such circumstances Captain Adams, the ranking officer left (Captain Hutton, who had command of the work, having disappeared early in the action), concluded to withdraw the men and endeavor to make his escape. All came out, including Captain Hutton's own company, but they threw away their arms and one by one disappeared, and, as Captain Adams supposes, returned to their homes. In striking contrast to this disgraceful conduct of Captain Hutton and his company, it is with great pleasure I record the gallant and noble conduct of a detachment of 9 men belonging to Captain King's company. Captain King, with the principal part of his company, was in the upper work, and this detachment, under Lieutenant Brooke, was sent to man one of the guns in the water battery. When it was proposed by the men here to make their escape, as they could do nothing, these 9 men declared their purpose of going into the upper fort to assist their comrades and share their fate, and amid a heavy fire of artillery and musketry set out with Lieutenant Brooke to carry out their design. Their fate is unknown, but such honorable and noble conduct deserves to be recorded.

I find upon examining the post returns of the fort, deducting those known to have escaped, that our loss does not exceed 205 enlisted men and 24 commissioned officers. The loss in material, especially in guns, is very heavy and perhaps irreparable. I succeeded, however, in saving two siege guns, a 24-pounder and a 30-pounder Parrott rifle, sent off early on the morning of the 14th. The only loss of material sustained by my division was 2 wagons and teams captured by the enemy from General Scurry's brigade while between Moreauville and Simsport.

In accounting for the disaster at Fort De Russy it is unnecessary to look to other causes than the overwhelming superiority of the enemy's force; but even with this disadvantage Fort De Russy might have been held for some days, perhaps, without relief from the outside, but for the vicious system of engineering adopted and the wretched judgment displayed in the selection of the position.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. E. SURGET,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dist. of West La.

No. 97.

Report of Brig. Gen. Mosby M. Parsons, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HEADQUARTERS PARSONS' DIVISION,
Camp near Mansfield, La., April 13, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report through you to Brigadier-General Churchill, commanding the Missouri and Arkansas

divisions, the part taken by my division in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on April 9.

I was encamped on the morning of the 8th 3 miles beyond Keachie, when I received orders to march immediately to Mansfield, at which point my command, numbering 2,200 men effective, arrived at 6 p. m. same day; there ordered three days' rations to be cooked, which occupied my troops until 12 p. m.

At 2 o'clock the same night I resumed the line of march in the direction of Pleasant Hill. Having arrived within 2 miles of this point, it was ascertained that the enemy were drawn up there in full force to give battle. Brigadier-General Churchill, being chief in command of the Arkansas division and my own, ordered the two divisions to diverge to the right of the main road for the purpose of attacking the enemy's flank and rear. Having marched by a circuitous route for the distance of 2 miles, we entered a road leading to the town from a southwesterly direction, following it until within 1 mile of the enemy's outposts. A line of battle was formed as indicated in No. 1 of the sketch* of a portion of the battle-field, herewith submitted and made a part of this report. The line advancing it was discovered that it would expose its right flank to the enemy without accomplishing the purposes intended by the movement. It became necessary, therefore, to change the direction by marching my division by the right flank entirely to the south side of the road as indicated by No. 2 of the sketch.

While this movement was being accomplished my sharpshooters, under Major Pindall, were hotly engaged with the enemy and finally rallied upon the main line, my left flank being also exposed to a galling fire. During this the enemy were also moving a portion of their force by its left flank, for the evident purpose of outflanking me on the right.

Having extended my line to the right to its utmost tension, and the Texas cavalry under Colonel Hardeman having formed on my right, I ordered the division to move by the left flank, and as soon as it was in motion I ascertained by the firing upon my right (the timber being too dense for personal observation) that the enemy in force even attempted to turn my right. Without waiting for intelligence from Colonel Clark, commanding First Missouri Brigade and the right of my division, I immediately informed General Churchill of the fact. In a few minutes information from Colonel Clark was received to the same effect. Aided, however, by the Texas cavalry and by his skillful maneuvering of his command he succeeded in defeating this first attempt of the enemy in that direction. I then ordered the whole line to charge. It threw itself with impetuosity and the wildest enthusiasm upon a force of the enemy larger than its own, strongly posted at No. 3 in the sketch, protected and concealed in ravines bordered with cane and willow. The enemy's force here was immediately put to flight, not, however, until nearly a whole regiment was captured.

Continuing the charge in the direction indicated by and between the dotted lines 4 and 5 in the sketch, I next encountered two of the enemy's batteries, which were captured, but in doing so the horses were all killed and no sufficient number of men could be spared to take the guns to the rear. About this time, also, another line of the enemy's infantry (numbered 6 in the sketch) was assaulted and driven

* Not found.

back upon the town, some of my troops of Burns' brigade pursuing them into the town.

While the action was thus going on the enemy had formed a line of battle (numbered 7 in the sketch) on my left and on the road, and debouching from the timber on my right in line of battle (No. 8), attacked me on both flanks in heavy force and threatened the annihilation of my gallant but far inferior command. All that could possibly save it from destruction was a speedy retreat, which was well accomplished until arriving in the timber near the line of formation (No 2) above cited. Some disorder arose from the fact that the timber and undergrowth was so dense as to render it impossible for the troops to see each other and thus restore mutual confidence. Officers of every grade, however, did their utmost to dispel the disorder, and finally succeeded in withdrawing their commands from under the fire of the enemy.

It was now sunset, the battle was ended, and I withdrew my command from the field. I deem it due to the officers and soldiers of my command to state that this charge of nearly 700 yards over open ground, and against two lines of the enemy drawn up and protected in the most favorable positions, was the most brilliant feat that I have witnessed during the present war, and could they have been sustained in their charge the enemy would have been routed entirely from all my part of the field. I am under obligations to Colonel Hardeman and his gallant band of Texans for their heroic efforts to prevent the enemy from finally flanking my right. Heavy masses alone prevented their success. My losses are as follows: Killed, 32; wounded, 235; missing, 51.*

I am pleased to recommend to the favorable notice of the commanding general the skill, intrepidity, and daring of Col. John B. Clark and Col. S. P. Burns, commanding First and Second Brigades of my division.

I am indebted to Major Maclean, assistant adjutant-general; Captain Kelly, assistant inspector-general; Capt. A. M. Standish, assistant adjutant-general, and Lieut. J. F. Edwards for their gallant and meritorious support on the field. While bearing an order Captain Standish was severely wounded in the left hand, and by my direction left the field.

Major Monroe, quartermaster, and Major Tracy, commissary of subsistence, are entitled to the thanks of the officers and soldiers for their promptness in furnishing transportation and supplies whenever necessary for the troops.

Dr. T. D. Wooten, chief surgeon of division, was promptly at his post, and was caring for the wounded with his usual vigilance and benevolent kindness.

For more particular details of this action and gallant bearing of other officers I respectfully refer to the official reports of Colonels Clark and Burns, herewith submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. M. PARSONS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. A. H. SEVIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* But see compilation from nominal lists following.

Return of Casualties in Parsons' division Missouri Infantry at the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864.

[Compiled from nominal lists.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
Staff			1	
1st (8th) Regiment		10	6	60
2d (9th) Regiment		4	7	101
10th Regiment	1	8	3	22
11th Regiment		5	9	35
12th Regiment		4	1	9
16th Regiment		1	3	21
Sharpshooters			1	9
Total	1	32	31	257

OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Tenth Missouri: Lieut. J. C. Estes, killed; Capts. H. Brockman, R. B. Overton, and Lieuts. George W. Clift and F. S. Reed, wounded.

Eleventh Missouri: Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Murray, Capt. A. S. Bradley, and Lieuts. H. C. Cogswell, John Kingston, J. M. Eaton, J. D. McCormick, T. F. Donnell, G. G. Lindsay, and R. W. Wrenn, wounded.

Sixteenth Missouri: Lieuts. James M. Wall and Alfred A. Wetzel, wounded.

No. 98.

Report of Brig. Gen. James C. Tappan, C. S. Army, commanding Churchill's division, of engagement at Pleasant Hill.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, ARKANSAS TROOPS
(KNOWN AS CHURCHILL'S DIVISION),
April 12, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: Being in command of the above-named division in the battle which occurred at Pleasant Hill, La., on April 9, it becomes my duty to report the action of said division in that affair, which will be ever memorable on account of its influence upon the destinies of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy. Said division was composed of two brigades, one (Tappan's brigade) commanded in said action by Col. H. L. Grinsted, and the other (Churchill's brigade) commanded by Col. L. C. Gause. Brigadier-General Churchill, having been put in command of Parsons' Missouri division and the above-mentioned Arkansas division, put me in command of said division.

On Thursday night, April 7, about 11 o'clock, I received orders from Brigadier-General Churchill to hold the division in readiness to move the next morning for Mansfield at daylight. I gave the necessary orders, and the next morning I moved promptly at the hour directed. We reached Mansfield that evening exactly at 3.30 p. m. The battle of Mansfield was then progressing, but Major-General Taylor not deeming it necessary to order us into the fight, we were directed to take position on what is known as the Gravelly Point road, to prevent a flank movement of the enemy which was anticipated in that direction. That night the division prepared two days' rations

and slept upon their arms in line of battle. At 2 a. m. we were summoned and moved promptly at 3 o'clock. We expected to meet the enemy about 4 or 5 miles distant. When, however, we reached the point where he had retired to the night before we found that he had precipitately fled. We instantly took up the line of march in pursuit, the division under my command taking the lead of the infantry troops. We proceeded some 18 miles, to within 2 miles of Pleasant Hill, where we were informed that the enemy occupied an advantageous position at that place. Within thirty-six hours my division had marched some 45 miles, almost without sleep, and were necessarily very much worn out and fatigued. After resting about two hours we diverged from the main Mansfield and Pleasant Hill road and proceeded some 4 miles, for the purpose of making a flank movement upon the enemy. Brigadier-General Parsons' Missouri division was upon my right and my division was immediately upon their left.

My line was formed at about 4.30 o'clock. As soon as formed I threw out three companies of skirmishers, as ordered, under Major Steele, of Grinsted's regiment, and immediately ordered my line to advance rapidly as directed. As soon as we began to move forward we became engaged with the enemy. We advanced from our original position more than half a mile, and by the right flank a distance equally as great. For an hour and a half we were as warmly engaged with the enemy as it has ever been my experience to witness on any battle-field. My division, however, never faltered, but moved steadily and firmly forward with the firmness of men who seemed determined to succeed or to fall in the attempt. Up to this time I obeyed implicitly the only order I had received, to press rapidly forward with my command and to keep up with the division on the right. At this juncture, learning that the division on the right had been outflanked and was falling back, I immediately directed my attention in that direction and saw that such was the case. When said division had swept entirely past mine, and my command became exposed to a heavy and murderous fire from the flank as well as the front, I ordered the brigade commanders to fall back with their respective brigades with a view of forming a line on a more advantageous position. As we commenced retiring I came across the brigadier-general commanding the two divisions, who was gallantly exerting himself to rally the division on the right. I reported to him, and under his guidance and direction exerted myself, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Parsons, to rally the men. The confusion which had, however, appeared on the right was soon manifested on the left. The exhausted condition of the men, the lateness of the hour, it being near dark, and the denseness of thicket made it extremely difficult to rally the men. While the battle lasted no men ever fought more gallantly. This is evidenced by the fact that the enemy made little or no attempt to pursue our line as we fell back; on the contrary, so thoroughly was he worsted in the engagement that he fled toward Red River as soon as night came, leaving his dead to be buried and his wounded to be cared for by us. Thus ended one of the brilliant affairs of the war so far as its results have proven. The loss of the division in the engagement was as follows: Killed, 26; wounded, 112; missing, 63.

I would state that I had no knowledge of the topography of the country, nor was I furnished with a map. The number of dead and wounded Yankees found before the line of the division will attest their efficiency in the action.

To Colonels Grinsted and Gause I am deeply indebted for the promptness with which they obeyed my orders, for the gallantry and zeal they manifested upon the field in the management of their commands. No officers could have acted with more coolness, bravery, and determination than they did, for which they deserve well of their country. The officers and men of the division fought well and are deserving of credit. I would particularly call attention to Colonel Shaver, who commanded a regiment in the brigade commanded by Colonel Grinsted. The coolness, judgment, and bravery with which he managed his regiment deserve special mention.

I am under great obligations to the members of my staff—Capt. Amos Tappan and Capt. J. J. Horner, and Lieut. William P. McCabe and Lieut. Charles Mitchell. They bore themselves with distinguished gallantry and rendered me great assistance. The same may be said of my volunteer aides—Dr. Thomas G. Polk, of Mississippi, and C. E. Ives, of Arkansas. That night I carried my command to the camp selected and reported in person to General Churchill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. TAPPAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Lieut. A. H. SEVIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 99.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Hamilton P. Bee, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS BEE'S DIVISION OF CAVALRY,
Pleasant Hill, La., April 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report operations of my command in the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill.

I marched from Columbus, on the Colorado River, in Texas, March 11, with six regiments of cavalry—Debray's, Buchel's, Terrell's, Woods', Gould's, and Likens'—and reported to General Richard Taylor, commanding army of operations in Louisiana, on April 5 at Mansfield, La., with the three first-named regiments. The others, being delayed by incidents of so long march, did not arrive in time to participate in the battles of the 8th and 9th.

On the afternoon of the 7th, was ordered to report to Maj. Gen. Tom Green, commanding cavalry corps, and did so at 5 o'clock at a creek some 12 miles from Mansfield, on road to Natchitoches; found the general skirmishing heavily with the enemy across the creek. My command was formed in reserve and slept on their arms in line of battle.

At daylight General Green moved back to Mansfield with all of his cavalry and artillery, leaving me with three regiments of cavalry to contest the advance of the enemy, which was successfully done by forming the regiments in successive lines of battle, with interval of 500 yards to the rear, and thus was enabled, owing to the dense wooded country, to delay their advance by forcing them to deploy into line and attack my position, when the regiment engaged, after holding the ground as long as practicable, retired behind the successive regiment, and thus by these successive formations the

march of the large army under General Banks was so delayed as to consume seven hours in a march of as many miles, and gave General Taylor time to prepare for the battle of Mansfield. On arriving at the open fields my work of skirmishing and delay was done, and I was assigned to the right of the line of battle then formed in the fields.

At 4 p. m. General J. G. Walker moved up his division of infantry, my cavalry covering his right, but being in the timber my progress was slow, and not until after the infantry had captured the wagon train and 21 pieces of artillery did I succeed in disentangling myself from the swamps and morasses. Then, moving rapidly, crossed the Seven-Mile Creek, following up what was reported to me as a routed foe, but at once encountered the Nineteenth Army Corps of the Federal army, who, not having come up in time to take part in the action of Mansfield, was now fresh and well posted on the crest of the hill surmounting the creek. Owing to the road being blocked by the captured train, our troops of the different arms became intermingled, but imbued by the proper spirit, acting as one organization, infantry and dismounted cavalry charged the enemy's line and maintained their ground until night put an end to the most severe action of the day. As it was fought by our troops when scattered and disorganized, by a decided and complete victory over the cavalry corps and Thirteenth Army Corps of the Federals, and against a fresh and solid column of 10,000 men, commanded by General Emory, and the battle of the Peach Orchard being a separate and distinct action from Mansfield, proved the steadiness of our soldiers. On the part of the line on which I acted I received the gallant support of Colonel Randal, commanding brigade, and Col. Edward Clark, commanding regiment, both of Walker's division, as well as the officers of the cavalry corps, intermingled without original brigade or regimental formation. Captain Lane, of Debray's regiment, with his company, gallantly charged the enemy's line to draw their fire, preparatory to a combined charge by our infantry, with loss, I regret to say, of Lieutenant Willis killed and a third of his company destroyed. Captain Borden, of Buchel's regiment, was most severely wounded. Major McNeil, of my personal staff, had his horse killed, and our casualties were heavy, but the particulars are inaccessible to me.

At daylight of the 9th, I was ordered to pursue the enemy, who had retreated during the night. This was done with rapidity for 15 miles, capturing many prisoners (stragglers), and the whole extent of the road marked with burning wagons and ambulances, arms thrown away, property abandoned, and every evidence of panic and disorder. At 9 o'clock, Colonel Madison's regiment of cavalry being in the advance, the enemy was encountered in line of battle across the fields in front of the village of Pleasant Hill. The strong front presented by what was supposed to be a routed and retreating army rendered it prudent to reconnoiter the extent of this line before ordering a charge, and Colonel Buchel on my left, and Colonel Hardeman on the right, were dispatched to ascertain how far into the timber and beyond sight the line extended. Colonel Buchel soon reported that their right rested on a deep ravine a short distance in the timber, but Colonel Hardeman reported the line extended for a mile into the timber on their left. I had not recovered from my surprise at this extraordinary show of force on the part of the enemy after the occurrences of the previous day and the

disastrous retreat of the night, except so far as to conclude that my irregular cavalry would have no business to charge such a line of battle, when Major-General Green arrived on the field and took command. By his order I accompanied him in a close reconnaissance of the enemy's line, with the result that no move was made by our cavalry until after the battle opened in the afternoon.

At 4 p. m. Churchill's division of Arkansas and Missouri troops engaged the enemy's extreme left, and so soon as his guns were heard the artillery of the cavalry corps (sixteen pieces, commanded by Major Semmes, most of which had been captured the day before at Mansfield) was ordered by General Green to open fire, the distance being about 800 yards. The rapidity and vigor evinced in the reply of forty pieces from the Federal line was conclusive proof that we were about to attack an army other than the one encountered the day before. At 4.30 o'clock I was ordered in person by General Green to charge with all of the cavalry the enemy, who were in the same position as they had been all day, but were supposed by him to be wheeling in retreat. I at once moved with Debray's and Buchel's regiments that were formed in the road, ordering the other cavalry regiments to follow, and in column of fours moved rapidly across the space intervening between the two armies, but before reaching nearer than 200 yards from the enemy's line of battle, and before the order was given to deploy and charge, the command was literally swept away by a cross-fire at close range from an enemy concealed behind a string of fence perpendicular to the enemy's line of battle. This fire was as unexpected as disastrous. Fortunately there were ravines of young pines on our right which furnished somewhat of shelter until the shock could be recovered from, but the empty saddles, the men shot and falling in all directions, the confusion, produced a scene imperishable on my memory. Although the fire was now opened from the front as well as the ambuscade, what was left of Debray's gallant regiment succeeded in returning to our lines, with a loss of one-third of their number. I had 2 horses shot under me. Colonel Debray was injured by the fall of his horse, which was killed.

Colonel Buchel, commanding the rear regiment in this move on the enemy's line, drew back in time to avoid the fire of the ambuscade, passed to the left, dismounted his men, attacked the Federals in their ambuscade, and drove them back to their line. This gallant and soldierly act, showing the discipline and valor of his men, was made at the sacrifice of his life, for he fell mortally wounded on the field. It is proper to state here that Colonel Buchel while wounded was in possession for a short time of the enemy, who took his name and rank, and will doubtless be published in their returns as mortally wounded and a prisoner, when in fact his prostrate body was retaken by his men, and the brave colonel died at my headquarters camp two days after the battle, a brilliant soldier of Prussia and an irreparable loss to our cause and his adopted country. I then passed to the left and joined the cavalry command, which dismounted, and with Polignac's division of infantry, under the immediate command of General Green, were hotly engaged with the enemy on their right center and right, which contest continued until after dark. After returning to my camp in company with General Taylor, at about 8 o'clock General Kirby Smith, the commander-in-chief, came up, just from Shreveport. I was present at the interview of these distinguished soldiers,

At 10 p. m. General Taylor ordered me to return to the battle-field, not more than 1,000 yards from where we were, and picket up to the enemy's line, and with General Smith returned to Mansfield. This I did with four companies of Buchel's regiment, established myself at the point which I had held at dark, and sent out pickets, who in a few moments commenced firing, showing that the enemy had not advanced a step. The fire soon ceased and the time passed without alarm, but with noise, confusion, and moving of wagons, until midnight, when all was still.

At dawn of day the pickets, advancing cautiously, found themselves in the abandoned lines of the enemy, and before sunrise I was in the house at Pleasant Hill that General Banks occupied at 8 o'clock the previous night, at which time he commenced his retreat to Natchitoches. All of this was at once dispatched to General Taylor. So soon as the cavalry, who had been sent back several miles for water the night before, could be brought up a strong force under Colonel Yager (now in command of Buchel's regiment) was sent in pursuit, which went about 20 miles to the Double Bridges, noting burning wagons and destroyed material of war, but as the bridges had been burnt he was compelled to return with about 100 prisoners (stragglers) and report these facts.

I have the honor to report that at daylight I was in possession of the battle-field of Pleasant Hill, with all the dead and wounded of the Federal army, who, with precipitation and haste, so soon as dark enabled them to do so, retreated, leaving uncared for both their dead and wounded of all ranks. Several surgeons of the Federal army reported to me soon after I reached Pleasant Hill as having been left by order of General Banks to care for their wounded, and awaited my commands, which it gave me pleasure to signify to them was that they continue their duties, offering all assistance in my power, until the superior orders of General Taylor could be ascertained. The day has been passed in burying the dead of both armies and caring for the Federal wounded, our own wounded having been cared for the night before.

It is proper to add that in riding along the enemy's line of battle, plainly marked by the temporary intrenchments thrown up by them and from behind which they fought, I found 4 officers of an Iowa regiment—1 a field officer, dead, the others wounded—who had lain on the field all night. It gave me pleasure, as it was my duty, to relieve their situation and have them cared for. These facts, thus hurriedly stated, will convey to General Green the confusion and disorder of the Federal army, who in their haste to retreat left their own wounded within their own lines without effort to relieve them. It shows that the battle of Pleasant Hill was as decided a victory for the Confederate arms as was Mansfield of the previous day; that the same troops, exhausted and reduced by the severe battle of the previous day, had attacked a fresh and powerful force intrenched on their own position, and had compelled it ignominiously to retreat under the cover of the night. It also shows that the boasted invasion of Texas has been effectually defeated and driven back to the shelter of their gun-boats on Red River.

It is proper to bear testimony to the gallant and useful services rendered me by Major Mechling, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. E. R. Tarver, aide-de-camp; John B. Waters, volunteer aide; Maj. George W. McNeil, aide-de-camp; Col. George W. Chilton, ordnance

officer, all of my personal staff, and Maj. Thomas R. Franklin, quartermaster Debray's regiment, and to the brave, constant, and faithful soldiers that I had the honor to command.

I will forward return of casualties so soon as they can be obtained.

Respectfully,

H. P. BEE,

Brig. Gen., C. S. Army, Comdg. 1st Div., Green's Cav. Corps.

Maj. E. T. HART,

Adjt. Gen. Green's Cav. Corps.

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HDQRS. BEE'S DIVISION, WHARTON'S CAVALRY CORPS,

Chambers' Plantation, Bayou Boeuf, La., May 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Upon the death of Maj. Gen. Tom Green, at the battle of Blair's Landing, on April 14, 1864, by virtue of my rank, I succeeded to the command of Green's cavalry corps, and with it held the army of General Banks closely invested under the shelter of his gun-boats at Grand Ecore, on the Red River, capturing every foraging party sent out, and effectually estopping any attempt to obtain supplies from the west side of the Red River. On the 19th April Major-General Polignac arrived and assumed command. On 21st, was ordered with my division of cavalry and one battery, by a route through the pine woods (thus avoiding the main road from Natchitoches to Alexandria), to place the battery in such position on the Red River as would prevent the passage of transports with supplies for the beleaguered and intrenched army at Grand Ecore. When I left the camp in front of Grand Ecore, the situation of the enemy was as it had been for ten weeks previous, quiet and inoffensive. The command struck the Red River, some 30 miles below Natchitoches, on the afternoon of the 22d. The engineers examined the ground and selected a favorable position on the river, too late in the day, however, to establish the battery. The command was much exhausted by its constant service since the battle of Mansfield, and believing itself far distant from danger, sought to enjoy a much-needed rest; but at 2 o'clock in the morning the advance pickets toward Natchitoches were driven in by a large force of cavalry. With difficulty the tired troops were aroused and line of battle formed to restrain this advance, while the train was sent to Monett's Ferry, some 6 miles below. As soon as daylight permitted, it was ascertained that the force of the enemy was large, and the division was retired to Monett's Ferry, and united with the command of General Major's division of cavalry, then in position at the crossing of Cane River.

It was not until the next day, the 23d, that I realized that all of Banks' army was upon me in retreat to Alexandria. I had left it quiet at Grand Ecore, and up to that moment had considered it but a force to prevent my operations on the river. At once the importance of holding the position became apparent. From the hill above the ferry, affording an extended view of the surrounding country, the movement of Banks was closely watched. At 8 o'clock detachments of the enemy were sent forward to feel the approaches. At 10 a. m. a large force crossed Cane River, 2 miles above the ferry, and moved down on my left. Another column passed down the river to a ford, 4 miles below. The remainder of the army of General Banks,

probably 15,000 strong, was kept in hand directly in front of my center. This powerful plan of attack was executed almost in my presence, yet a knowledge of [it] availed but to show my utter inability to successfully meet it. The Cane River was fordable at all points, and the swamps and lagoons on the left, usually impassable, were perfectly dry. Our line of defense was 1½ miles front on Cane River, the artillery (three batteries) in the center. The advance on the left flank was met by Colonel Madison with his own and the Thirty-second Regiment of Cavalry, dismounted, Colonel Woods commanding. This force met the furious attack, and steadily resisted the advance of the enemy. For two hours the fire was incessant, but slowly our men were driven, until the hill above mentioned was lost. Without delay all the troops in position on my left center were withdrawn, and, under my personal command, re-enforced the extreme left. The movement had but barely been made when the enemy advanced. They were met by the fire of a section of McMahan's battery, under the gallant Lieutenant Fontaine, at close range, with double canister and the concentrated fire of 1,200 rifles. The effect was crushing and the repulse decided. Information was then received that Captain Lane, with Debray's regiment, was stubbornly but vainly contesting the advance on the extreme right. The critical moment had come; the position turned on both flanks, and a large force close in front ready to spring on the center. Availing myself of the momentary advantage gained on the left, I determined to abandon the position, the necessary orders for which had but been given, when the artillery, masked opposite my center, opened a fire which at once demonstrated that the position was no longer tenable. The command retreated in good order at a walk. The loss, about 50 men and 1 artillery wagon, the horses of which were killed, while the enemy lost full 400 killed and wounded.

That I was not successful was because success was impossible. An army of 25,000, marching at their leisure on the main road to Alexandria, could not be long impeded by a force of 2,000 horse in position on a river fordable and easy of access and approach. There was no time to prepare for the advance of Banks' army. It had been left quiet in its intrenchments 40 miles back but two days before; without warning (for it was impossible to warn me) the whole of it was suddenly thrown on me. Those who, distant from the scene, imagined that the enemy, demolished and disorganized, were fleeing before our triumphant forces might have expected other results; but those who saw that splendid army spread over the valley of the Cane River as far as the eye could reach were not surprised that the road had to be yielded to them. The position was held for seven hours' continuous fire by 2,000 men against 25,000, and yielded at last with honor. The command comprised Bee's division and Major's division of cavalry, including Bagby's and Debray's brigades.

The command fell back to Beasley's, where our supply camp had been established. There were no supplies anywhere else, as the country had been passed and repassed by both armies. These considerations warranted me in the movement, intending to be back on the main road to Alexandria in time to annoy the trains of the enemy. The distance, represented at 18 miles, proved to be 22, and the camp had been moved 6 miles farther back for greater safety, thus making the march 28 miles, exhausting the troops and frustrating my plans. On the 25th April, occupied McNutt's Hill early in the morning, but too late for useful service. On this day Maj. Gen. John

A. Wharton assumed command of Green's cavalry corps. The pursuit was continued by this command, united with Steele's division of cavalry and Polignac's division of infantry, together amounting to less than 4,000 men, and kept up to the vicinity of Alexandria, where the enemy found shelter of their gun-boats and their intrenched camp.

In the operations of my division, much reduced by sickness, loss in battle, &c., it maintained an unequal contest on the Bayou Boeuf, south of Alexandria, with the best troops of the enemy, preventing them from removing the blockade established by General Major some 25 miles below on the Red River. We held the position for many days, fighting their cavalry and driving it back on their infantry supports every day, and only abandoned the ground when the Sixteenth Army Corps marched on us and cleared the way for the retreat of Banks from Alexandria, which occurred on the 13th of May. Another occasion will be embraced to report detail of the good conduct and valuable service of this command during this severe campaign.

Major Mechling, acting assistant adjutant-general, after valuable service at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, was seriously injured at Monett's Ferry. Maj. George W. McNeil, of my staff, was killed near Alexandria, while serving temporarily on the staff of Major-General Wharton. Capt. E. R. Tarver, aide-de-camp; Maj. John B. Waters and J. A. Williams, volunteer aides-de-camp; Col. George W. Chilton, ordnance officer, and Henry Schneider, of Duff's regiment, orderly, are entitled to my acknowledgment of their faithful service. My regrets for George McNeil will be appreciated by all who knew him. On the 14th of May I was relieved of my command and ordered to report to headquarters at Shreveport by Major-General Taylor.

Very respectfully,

H. P. BEE,
Brigadier-General, C. S. Army.

Capt. B. F. WEEMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

SEGUIN, TEX., *August* 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS,
Chief of Staff, Trans-Miss. Dept., Shreveport, La.:

SIR: An impression prevails in this State that if I had made a proper defense at Monett's Ferry it would have resulted in the capture of Banks' army. Allow me very briefly to state the position of my troops at that place. I had been ordered below Natchitoches to blockade Red River, but arrived at Monett's Ferry only a few hours in advance of a large force of the enemy, who it was subsequently ascertained left Grand Ecore on the same day that I withdrew from the line of investment in front of that place. I moved by the outside or piney woods route, while they marched by the main river road. It was not until the next morning (the 23d of April) that from a hill above the ferry, which afforded an extended view of the surrounding country, I realized that Banks' whole army was upon me; for up to that moment I had considered it a force sent down to prevent the execution of my orders to blockade, &c. At once the importance of holding the position became apparent. From the hill the movements of Banks were closely watched. At 8 a. m. he

massed his troops in close column behind a timbered swamp, about 1,200 yards in front of the ferry, then sent forward detachments to feel the different approaches. At 10 o'clock a large force crossed Cane River 2 miles above the ferry and moved down on my left, and another column passed down the river to a ford 4 miles below. The remainder of his army, full 15,000 men, were kept in hand directly in front of my center. This deliberate and powerful plan of attack was executed almost in my presence, yet a knowledge of it availed but to show my utter inability to successfully meet it. My line of defense was 1½ miles long, covering the approaches in front to the ferry, the artillery (three batteries) being in the center. A gallant and tried band of heroes, under the intrepid Colonel Madison, afterward re-enforced by the splendid Thirty-second Regiment, with its brave colonel (Woods) at its head, met the furious attack of not less than 10,000 of the enemy on the extreme left, and for two hours steadily held their ground, during all of which time the fire of musketry was incessant and terrible, yet slowly but steadily our men were driven until the hill above described was lost. Without a moment's delay all the troops in position on my left center were withdrawn and re-enforced the command at the extreme left. Hardly had the movement been effected when the enemy advanced. They were met by the fire of a section of McMahan's battery under the gallant Lieutenant Fontaine, at close range, with double-shotted charges of grape and canister and the concentrated fire of 1,200 rifles. The effect was crushing and the repulse decided. Information was then received that the veteran Captain Lane, of Debray's regiment, was stubbornly but vainly contesting the crossing of Cane River at the ford below, on the extreme right. The critical moment had come; the position had been turned on both flanks, and an immense army was close in front ready to spring on its center. Availing myself of the momentary advantage gained on the left by the repulse of the enemy, with the full concurrence of Brigadier-Generals Bagby and Major, commanding on the field, I determined to abandon the position, the necessary orders for which had but just been given when forty pieces of artillery, which were masked in the timber opposite the center, opened a fire which at once demonstrated that the position was not tenable. It was a torrent of fire which will not be forgotten by those who were exposed to it. The command retired in good order, "on a walk," having lost about 50 men and 1 artillery wagon, the horses of which were all killed, while the enemy admit a loss of 600 killed and wounded.

That I was not successful was because success was impossible. An army of 25,000 men, marching at their leisure on the main road to Alexandria, could not long be impeded by a small force of cavalry in position on a river fordable and easy of access at all points except at the ferry. I was unprepared for the advance of Banks' army. It had been left quiet in its intrenchments 40 miles back but two days before; without warning (for it was impossible to warn me) the whole of it was suddenly hurled on me. Those who, distant from the scene, imagined that the enemy, demoralized, disorganized, and terror-stricken, were fleeing before our triumphant forces might have expected other results; but those who saw that magnificent army spread over the valley of Cane River as far back as the eye could reach, marching its solid columns with the compactness of self-reliance and conscious strength, were not surprised that the road had to be yielded to them. I was aware that "success was the criterion

of merit," and that my action would be criticised and condemned; but I knew that in thirty minutes my artillery would be captured and my force routed and dispersed, and I determined to brave the consequences and save my command. The position was held with 2,000 men against 25,000 for seven hours' continuous fire, and finally yielded with no loss of honor. I then fell back to Beasley's, because some of my troops were starving and no supplies could be obtained at a nearer point. The distance had been represented at 18 miles. The woods through which I was passing were burning, and no grass or forage for the horses. I knew that the enemy would consume the next day in crossing Cane River. These considerations warranted me in going to my supply train, then at Beasley's, intending to be back on the main road before the enemy progressed far. The distance, however, proved to be 22 miles and the train had been removed still 5 miles [farther back for greater safety, thus making my march 27 miles], exhausting the troops and frustrating my plans, which, notwithstanding, I respectfully submit were founded in reason and common sense. There were no provisions to be obtained toward Alexandria and I did not think the opportunity of inflicting injury on the enemy sufficiently promising to justify me in starving the troops.

In the operations on Bayou Boeuf, for seven days my division, much reduced by loss in battle, sickness, &c., maintained an unequal contest with the best troops of the enemy, and by a series of attacks and annoyances actually prevented them from sending troops to remove the blockade which General Major so gallantly maintained on the river below Alexandria. So impressed were they that my force was a large one that they feared to leave it in rear, even when the stake was the very subsistence of their army. I claim for my troops (Gould's, Woods', Terrell's, Likens', Yager's, Myers', and Vincent's Louisiana cavalry) the highest praise for their gallantry, patient endurance of fatigue, and never-failing enthusiasm; and the fact that they held their position for so many days, fighting the enemy's cavalry and driving them back on their artillery and infantry supports every day, and only abandoned it when the Sixteenth Army Corps of Banks' army, 10,000 strong, marched down on them, stamps them soldiers worthy of the cause for which we fight. Conscious, therefore, sir, that I discharged my trust to the best of my ability, I respectfully request that you will order a court of inquiry to investigate these facts, that justice to myself and the country may be done. This course has been adopted by me as the one best calculated, by its direct appeal to my commander-in-chief, to enable me to effectually silence the reports in circulation prejudicial to my character as an officer, emanating in some instances from malicious motives, but generally from ignorance of facts, which my sense of duty has thus far constrained me to withhold from the public eye as perhaps calculated to injure our cause.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

H. P. BEE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT,
Shreveport, La., November 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. P. BEE:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 17th of August, asking for a

court of inquiry to investigate the facts connected with your defense of the position at Monett's Ferry on the 23d April, 1864. Though General Taylor, in his official report of operations in Red River Valley, strongly censures your conduct on the occasion above referred to, the general commanding directs me to state that your defense of the position at Monett's Ferry was that of a brave and gallant soldier. The river was fordable at various points, and he regarded the defense impracticable with the small force at your disposal. A longer delay, he believes, would have insured the loss of your artillery and endangered the safety of your command. If after this statement you still desire it, I am instructed to say that a court will be ordered to investigate your official conduct in this affair.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN G. MEEM, JR.,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS WHARTON'S CAVALRY CORPS.
Chambers' Plantation, La., June 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. P. BEE:

MY DEAR FRIEND: I have heard that you are censured in Texas in reference to the Monett's Ferry affair by stragglers from the cavalry, who would have been as loud in condemnation had you remained until defeated by Banks' army, as would certainly have occurred. I called on General Bagby this morning, and he is perfectly willing (for he is a high-toned gentleman) to make a statement for publication, in which he will say that you remained in position much longer than he would have done had he been in command. General Major several weeks since told me the same thing. From an examination of the ground, and from a full knowledge of your force and that of the enemy, I am satisfied that you could not have maintained yourself at Monett's Ferry.

Sincerely, your friend,

JOHN A. WHARTON.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. } ARMY OF WESTERN LOUISIANA,
In the Field, May 24, 1864.

To the officers and soldiers of Wharton's (formerly Green's) Cavalry Corps:

For forty-six days you have engaged the enemy, always superior to you in numbers. When the beaten foe, with four army corps of infantry and upward of 5,000 cavalry, began his retreat, you were found in battle in his front, and hung upon his flanks and rear only to destroy. In his retreat from Grand Ecore to the Atchafalaya you killed, wounded, and captured upward of 4,000, destroying five transports and three gun-boats, all of which was accomplished with a loss to you of but 400 men, two-thirds of whom will report for duty again within forty days. The history of no other campaign will present the spectacle of a cavalry force capturing and killing more of the enemy than their own numbers. This you have done, and in so doing have immortalized yourselves and added new luster to Texas, the gallantry of whose sons has been illustrated on every

battle-field from Gettysburg to Glorietta. Had a portion of our forces been where I was informed they were an hour and a half before the engagement at Norwood's plantation (Yellow Bayou), the rear guard of the enemy's army would have been utterly destroyed. As it was, 30 of his dead were left on the field, 65 graves marked "Killed in the action of the 18th May," besides his wounded carried off by him. As to the loss you inflicted on him, from prisoners recently captured we learned it to be 800 killed and wounded at the battle of Norwood's.

Your advance guard are now watering their horses in the Mississippi River, whither you will shortly follow. On short rations and scanty forage, in the saddle day and night, you have neither murmured nor complained. In all your trials and dangers the veteran Second Louisiana Cavalry have been by your side; they have shared your dangers and are participants in your glory. During the entire retreat the different batteries of artillery, either acting separately or under Colonel Brent or Major Semmes, displayed the most marked skill and gallantry. They were particularly distinguished in the engagements at Mansura and Yellow Bayou. I, as your commanding general, honor you for your deeds, and thus acknowledge my appreciation of your successes. General Taylor cheerfully accords to you the meed of his approbation, and in his own time and way will signify his admiration. A grateful people will cherish the record of your gallantry.

JNO. A. WHARTON,
Major-General.

B. F. WEEMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 100.

Report of Col. George W. Baylor, Second Arizona Cavalry, commanding Major's cavalry brigade, of operations April 7–18.

HEADQUARTERS MAJOR'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, Louisiana, April 18, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 7th instant Colonel Madison's regiment began skirmishing with the enemy's advance, falling back slowly. Colonel Lane formed our brigade to receive the enemy. My regiment was placed on the left wing, and was strongly posted on the crest of a hill, being dismounted. Colonel Madison having fallen back, was ordered to support me, and took position on my right (left center), Lane's regiment on the right center, and Chisum's on the right wing. The enemy charged boldly up to within 50 yards of our position, but the men stood their ground firmly, loading and firing with great coolness. This close work soon became too hot for the enemy, and when we charged them with a yell they broke in confusion. Here Lieut. W. T. Brown, of Company E, fell mortally wounded; Lieut. F. B. Chilton, commanding Company B, wounded severely, both of Baylor's regiment. We drove them back nearly a mile, when we found them in greatly superior force, and were obliged in turn to fall back to prevent being flanked. Our ammunition being nearly exhausted, Colonel Lane

ordered [us] to fall back until we could get a fresh supply. We took position in rear of the mill, but our artillery and other cavalry continued the fight until nightfall, when the enemy withdrew. We slept on our arms all night.

On the 8th, we fell back to our infantry, and were sent to the left wing, dismounted, and sent to the left of General Mouton's division. Bagby's brigade being on our left, we were ordered to remount and moved farther to the left, and again dismounted. We were moved forward and found the enemy in force strongly posted behind a fence in the woods. We had to cross an open field half a mile in face of their artillery and infantry; drove them from their position, capturing one piece of artillery and a number of prisoners. Here Lieut. George E. Rottenstein, commanding Company F (Baylor's regiment), fell mortally wounded, gallantly leading his men. The loss in my regiment was quite severe in killed and wounded. My regiment being on the extreme right occupied some houses on the main road, and from them and the fences opened fire on the enemy, who were boldly advancing through an open field in line of battle, and I am positive I saw the United States flag (once loved and honored by us all) flying, one-half of it being black. I can only account for it on the ground that it was intended as a compliment to the negro element in the command, one of whom I saw stretched on his back dressed in the Federal uniform. Our fire soon checked them, McMahan's battery having opened on them at the same time from a hill in our rear. Information was brought me at this moment that Colonel Lane, who had led us with his accustomed coolness and bravery, was wounded, and the command of the brigade devolved upon me. I informed McMahan of our position, and requested that he would move his battery to our front. Orders now came from Brigadier-General Major to mount our horses, which were 1½ miles to the rear. The enemy, too, had begun a disorderly retreat, which ended in a disgraceful rout to them and a glorious victory to us. By the time I could get the command mounted (many of them having chased the enemy 6 or 8 miles) it was nearly dark, and the delay occasioned by meeting captured trains and artillery made it late before we reached the front. We took position in advance, and I sent forward pickets, who were fired on by the enemy's advance. We were ordered by General Walker to take position on the left wing, where we again lay on our arms all night.

On the morning of the 9th, we were ordered forward in pursuit, Colonel Madison in the advance. We found every evidence of a disorderly retreat—burning wagons, the dead and wounded scattered along the road. We captured many prisoners who were left in the retreat. We overtook the enemy's rear guard about 3 miles from Pleasant Hill, and soon came on the main body drawn up in line of battle. Were ordered to dismount and skirmish, which we did, drawing the fire of their artillery. Lane's regiment was not with the brigade. Late in the evening our infantry and artillery came up, when we were ordered to charge. We immediately mounted and moved forward, but as our horses were some distance in the rear Buchel's and Debray's regiments, being formed and in the saddle, had made a charge and been repulsed. General Major then ordered our brigade to the left wing, where we were dismounted and attacked the enemy in flank and drove them rapidly back to their breast-works, which had been hastily made of pine saplings and rails. The fighting was close and hot. Here Lieutenant English, adjutant of Madison's regi-

ment, fell gallantly cheering the men. The enemy had a very strong position. The pine logs and rails, of which I have spoken, were piled up at a right angle with the main road. Behind this the enemy were lying, and could only be shot when in the act of firing. Across a small inclosure and in rear of this temporary work was an abrupt hollow running parallel with it, where the enemy were securely posted in heavy numbers. We were not strong enough to dislodge them or flank them. Our position was such that we received a good portion of Buchel's fire, which we returned. It was now becoming dark and difficult to distinguish friend from foe. I explained to Generals Green and Major our position, and also pointed out to Lieutenant Yoist, of West's battery, who had just come up, the position of the enemy, and asked for re-enforcements. General Polignac's division started to my assistance, but unfortunately just at this moment Lane's regiment, that had been ordered to our support, and who were on our extreme left, opened fire on us at 300 yards distance, and we were compelled to leave our position, some of Polignac's division having fired on us at the same time. A little more daylight would have enabled us, with Polignac's division, to flank the enemy, but General Polignac not knowing the enemy's position did not wish to risk his men under so many cross-fires from friend and foe.

I cannot close this part of my report without speaking of the coolness and bravery of the officers and men of our brigade. Of Colonel Madison's dashing, fiery courage too much cannot be said. Our brigade commander, Col. W. P. Lane, before he was disabled was ever in the front rank encouraging his men by his voice and example. I know I express the feelings of the entire brigade when I say we wish for no braver or more experienced officer to command us. Colonel Chisum, Lieutenant-Colonel Crump, and Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen acted with coolness and bravery. Actg. Brig. Surg. S. C. Oliver and the surgeons of the regiments were active and untiring in their zeal and attention to the wounded.

At 3 p. m. on April 19, being in camp at Prothro's Bridge, 4 miles above Grand Ecore, on Bayou Pierre, the brigade, in obedience to orders from brigadier-general commanding, took up the line of march southward, and at 3 a. m. of the 20th bivouacked at Prudhomme's Mill. At 8 o'clock took up line of march for Cloutierville, arriving about 6 p. m. On the 21st, arrived at Monett's Ferry, on old Cane River. On the 22d, received orders to move down on Red River to attack gun-boats and transports. Before moving, however, a courier arrived from Brigadier-General Bee announcing an attack on his rear and that he was being rapidly driven. The brigade was immediately formed on the left of the road and detachments from the different regiments sent forward under Capt. D. C. Carrington, of Company E, Baylor's regiment, who encountered the enemy about 3 miles from the ferry on the Cloutierville road, and together with the Arizona scouts drove them back to within 1 mile of the latter place. Night coming on, Captain C[arrington], by order of the general commanding, fell back to within about 800 yards of our position.

On the morning of the 23d, Captain C[arrington] again advanced, with orders to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy, which he did after going about 3 miles, and immediately began skirmishing with them. Captain Carrington is entitled to much credit for the manner in which he resisted the enemy's advance. He fell back slowly, contending for every inch of ground, until the enemy was drawn within

range of our batteries, which opened on and drove them back. Scouts brought reports of the advance of the enemy in force. Our brigade was formed in line of battle, Baylor's regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen commanding, on the right; Madison's, Col. George T. Madison commanding, on the left; Chisum's regiment, Col. Isham Chisum commanding, on the right; Lane's regiment, Major Saufley commanding, on the left center; the First Battalion Louisiana State Troops, Major Caldwell commanding, and temporarily attached to the brigade, on extreme left. Scouts soon brought information that a force of the enemy was moving to turn our left flank, with the intention of occupying a knoll of ground on the right bank of the river and commanding the ferry. This fact being made known to the brigadier-general commanding division, he, with his staff, reconnoitered in person, and ordered up a section of artillery (two rifled guns, formerly of Nims' battery), under command of Lieutenant Fontaine, of McMahan's battery. The enemy was in plain view. The battery opened on them with effect, which soon drew the fire of their artillery. A spirited though unequal duel was kept up for some time, the enemy using some eight or ten pieces, among them two 30-pounder Parrott guns. The commander of division, General Major, with the consent of the commander-in-chief, placed me in command of the left wing.

Finding that a movement in considerable force was being made to turn our left, I asked for re-enforcements. Woods' regiment, Colonel Woods commanding, was taken from the center (Debray's brigade) and reported to me. Believing that if the enemy got possession of the hill spoken of we would be compelled to abandon the crossing of Cane River, I sent Colonels Madison, Lane, and Woods' regiments and the First Battalion Louisiana State Troops to occupy the hill, and in case they could not hold it to fall back to a second line I had selected. Captain Waterhouse, of Lane's regiment, was sent forward to skirmish with the enemy, Captain Whited, of Debray's regiment, acting with him. They are entitled to great praise for the stubborn resistance made to the advance of the enemy, who came on four or five lines deep. The troops there of my brigade, under Col. George T. Madison, and Colonel Woods' regiment, under Colonel Woods, made a gallant resistance, and after suffering some loss and punishing the enemy severely were compelled to fall back. The troops retired in good order and were soon in position, and the artillery ambuscaded; Baylor's and Chisum's regiments were brought up from the position where they had been covering the ferry and placed on the right of the rear line. My right now rested on Cane River and my left extended along a line of fences and thick undergrowth, forming an acute angle with the river, with an open field in front 400 yards wide. Captain McNelly's scouts, Lieutenant Moore commanding, were sent to the left to watch any movement on that flank, for our line could not with the men I had be prolonged sufficiently to reach a lake (which would have made our position perfectly secure), 5 or 6 miles in length. Lieutenant Moore soon reported the enemy moving along the edge of the lake. I ordered Colonel Madison to mount his men, move to the left, dismount and protect our flank, and sent to General Bee a statement of the fact, asking for two more regiments to drive the enemy back and extend my line to the lake. The enemy could now be distinctly heard approaching and their advance guard came in sight. A reconnoitering party of some 50 men (letters since captured state it was General Cameron, staff, and

escort) came within 60 yards of the artillery, when they and our entire line opened fire on them. Few returned unhurt to the Federal lines, which I judge from the noise and loud commands given must have been thrown into considerable confusion. No further advance was made, as we kept up a cannonade on the woods where the enemy were. But a battery was moved up to within 500 yards on the opposite side of the river and opened fire on our Lieutenant Fontaine. I ordered him to cease firing, and sent to ask that the batteries at the ferry would open on the battery of the enemy. An order was brought me by Lieut. R. E. Carrington, my acting assistant adjutant-general, from the general commanding the forces to get out of there the best way I could, which I accordingly did. The troops on the right having retired, I ordered Lieutenant Fontaine to move his section down near the crossing, with instructions to open fire and hold the crossing until the left could be withdrawn, and in case a road could be found to retire his pieces (the road which he had come being raked by the batteries of the enemy), to fight as long as possible, and then spike them. Baylor's regiment (Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen) was sent to support the battery, and to the coolness and bravery of Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen and Lieutenant Fontaine I attribute the safe withdrawal of the left, which had been pressed and was now threatened with overwhelming numbers. A road was found and Nims' guns are still ready to obey their present gallant commander.

In this connection it is proper I should pay an humble tribute to the memory of one whose virtues and personal worth will long be remembered by the regiment to which he belonged. At Monett's Ferry on April 23 fell the Rev. B. F. Ellison, chaplain to Madison's regiment, mortally wounded fighting in the front rank. When the first gun was fired in defense of Southern liberty and States' rights he was in California, and when the call came to defend the Government of our choice and our firesides from Northern outrage he left Los Angeles, although closely watched, and began his weary pilgrimage on foot through Mexico to worship at the shrine of liberty. With his heart's blood has he proven his devotion to the cause so dear to every patriot's heart. Peace to his ashes.

The army retreated toward Beasley's Station that night. On the 24th, moved toward McNutt's Hill. On the morning of the 25th, attacked the enemy's rear guard at that place. The 26th and 27th, rested. On the 28th, I was ordered to support Colonel Hardeman, who attacked the enemy on Bayou Rapides. I was afterward sent into the woods to assist Colonel Hardeman in driving the enemy to within 4 miles of Alexandria, and then stop. Colonel Woods [was] ordered to act in conjunction with me, and took position on the right of my brigade. The nature of the ground, bayous, briars, and cane would not admit of my moving in line of battle. I ordered Colonel Mullen (Baylor's regiment) to move in line of battle, and the others to move in column of fours in his rear, Madison on the left, Lane and Chisum center, Woods on the right. After moving 1½ miles we found the enemy in line of battle. Dismounted and moved up to the attack. Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen moved to the left, began the attack, and drove the enemy on Hardeman's right. Our entire line opened on them, driving them rapidly. Having carried out my instructions according to orders I withdrew, leaving Baylor's regiment on picket. On the 29th, remained encamped on Bayou Rapides. On the 30th, took up line of march for Paul's. On the 31st, encamped at Lloyd's Bridge.

On May 1, the brigade was ordered to Wilson's Landing, on Red River. On arriving I learned from Captain Kirkley, ——— Regiment, Hardeman's brigade, that the enemy were constantly passing in transports and gun-boats. Before we could get the artillery in position (Captain West's battery, commanded by Lieut. John Yoist) a transport came by. She was captured after an exciting chase of 2 miles by Chisum's regiment, Captain Wilson commanding, and the Arizona scouts, Lieutenant Smith commanding. Her captain and crew were sent to the rear, also a quartermaster, and the boat (the Emma) burned.

On May 2, the enemy were reported coming from above with strong cavalry force and gun-boats. They drove in Captain Waterhouse (Lane's regiment). who was on picket, rapidly. I sent Chisum's regiment, Captain Wilson commanding, to re-enforce him, with instructions to fight the enemy and fall back toward Marksville. I ordered Lieutenant Yoist to move from the position he had taken in front of Smith's plantation, with the two 10-pounder Parrott guns, and take position a quarter of a mile above, so as to sweep the Wilson plantation. The enemy were in plain view advancing a line of skirmishers, with the main force in column. A few well-directed shots checked them, and a portion of the force moved to the left in the woods. At this moment Colonel Madison sent me word that a member of the Second Louisiana Cavalry who lived close by informed him that there was a road passable for cavalry that led from where the enemy were to the Cheneyville road, 3 miles in our rear. At the same moment a courier from below brought me a dispatch stating that the enemy were coming up the river with gun-boats and transports, number not known. Supposing the enemy had acquired information of my strength and position, and were attempting to cut me off from the Marksville and Cheneyville road, I determined to fight the force below and secure the Marksville road. Agreeably to instructions from the brigadier-general commanding, I moved down as rapidly as possible, with Madison's and Lane's regiments and the two howitzers and one Parrott gun of West's battery, under Lieutenant Lyne, to attack the enemy below, leaving Chisum's regiment to keep the enemy in check above, and fall back down the river if pressed, and Lieutenant Yoist, with one Parrott gun, with instructions to fire a few shots and move rapidly down the river also. I was anxious to get the artillery into position at the point where the Marksville road leaves the river, ordering Madison's and Lane's regiments to follow so soon as mounted. We met the enemy 800 or 1,000 yards above the point I wished to reach, when they opened a hot fire on us from 24-pounder howitzers on a cotton-clad boat, and guns of heavier metal from a gun-boat, and at the same time opened a hot fire from all the boats (three in number) with small-arms. The horses of the artillery were soon killed and wounded, so as to prevent the pieces being used. Two pieces were unlimbered, but the levee prevented them from damaging the enemy, while their sharpshooters were very annoying. I sent orders to Colonel Madison and Major Saufley (commanding Lane's regiment) to dismount and open fire on the enemy, which was promptly done and with effect, enabling Lieutenant Lyne to disengage horses enough from the caissons and howitzers to take the Parrott gun over the levee and open on the gunboats. At this moment word was brought me that Chisum's regiment had retreated on the Cheneyville road, contrary to orders, thus leaving my small force (250 men) entirely uncovered on the left. I

did not deem it prudent to remain, and, consulting the commanders of regiments with me, determined to withdraw to Marksville and await further orders.

Learning that I could reach the river without being observed below Fort De Russy, I intended making an attack on the enemy there, but having received orders to return to this point I did so. Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen having arrived with Baylor's regiment, I placed that regiment and Chisum's in the original position at Smith's place. Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton, of Hardeman's regiment, was also placed in support of a section of West's battery, under Lieut. J. Yoist. Lieut. W. H. Lyne, commanding the other section, was with me at the Compton place.

May 3, the City Belle was captured with a portion of the One hundred and twentieth Ohio Regiment on board. Colonel Hardeman was present with a portion of his brigade. They did all the firing with small-arms. I cannot speak too highly of the splendid practice of West's battery, under Lieutenant Yoist. The second shot from the Parrott rifle entered the boiler, when the enemy began jumping overboard. Colonel Mudd, commanding regiment, and chief of General McClernand's cavalry corps, was mortally wounded. A colonel of a negro regiment was shot through the bowels, and a lieutenant-colonel mortally wounded, and a number of the enemy killed, wounded, and captured.

On May 4, Colonel Hardeman's brigade was placed to support Lieutenant Yoist's section, Chisum's regiment remaining also; Baylor's regiment was ordered down to support Lieut. W. H. Lyne's section.

On May 5, the enemy were reported coming down with two gunboats and a transport. Colonel Hardeman being absent sick the brigadier-general commanding left me in command of the forces on the river. The enemy passed the upper section after being roughly handled by the artillery and small-arms. The transport came ahead and received the first shot from Lieutenant Lyne's section, which disabled her. The gun-boats then opened fire, and being armed with two 30-pounder Parrott guns, two 12-pounder rifled Dahlgrens, and four 24-pounder howitzers on one (the Signal, No. 8), and the armament of the other being nearly the same, some idea may be gathered of the hot fire our one Parrott gun had to undergo and of the accuracy of her gunner, Sergeant ———, who brought them both to a standstill. Getting behind a bend they began a furious cannonade on our guns. I ordered Colonel Madison, who was on the extreme left, to move up opposite the gun-boats and open fire with his Enfields. The order was promptly and gallantly obeyed, thus drawing a portion of the fire. I sent an order to Lieutenant-Colonel Hampton that if his left was secure and no other gun-boats in sight to send down Lieutenant Yoist with the Parrott gun and we would capture the boats. I soon had the pleasure of hearing the gun open above us on the enemy, who had taken shelter from the gun below. Lieut. W. H. Lyne asked permission to move his piece up and open on the transport that was sheltered by a bend on the left bank of the river. She surrendered after a few shots.

The enemy finding that they were assailed from above and below anchored the Signal, No. 8, so as to present her broadside to the section below, and the Covington moved up [and] engaged Lieutenant Yoist, who was keeping up a steady, unerring fire. A courier from the pickets below brought word of the approach of another gunboat, and the booming of her guns announced her near approach.

It was now evident that we must work fast. I ordered Major Saufley, commanding Lane's regiment, to move up opposite the gun-boats and close their port-holes, if possible. A portion of Chisum's regiment arrived about this time, under Lieutenants Brookshier and Gilbert, having run on foot from the upper section and joined in the attack. Company C, Lieutenant Fry, and Company H, Captain Calhoun, Baylor's regiment, were ordered up at the same time. I had the pleasure of seeing the smoke issuing from the Covington, and she was soon wrapped in flames, her crew escaping to the opposite side of the river under a hot fire from our Enfields. The Signal, No. 8, still continued the contest, no doubt relying on assistance from the boat below. Lieutenant Lyne soon sent the advancing boat down the river badly crippled. The Signal still continued the fight. The fire having reached the guns and shells of the Covington, they kept up a continuous roar. This deceived the enemy below, who again came up to the attack and was a second time driven back. All of our forces now attacked the Signal. The men moved up to the bank of the river and closed her port-holes, when she surrendered. None of the crew of the Covington were captured and only a portion of the crews of the Signal and transport John Warner. We have saved the armament of the Signal, a quantity of ammunition, and some of her stores. I am under many obligations to Colonel Madison and Major Saufley and Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen and the men and officers under them for the promptness with which they obeyed all orders and fearlessness with which they braved the storm of shot and shell. I cannot speak too highly of Lieutenants Yoist and Lyne and the officers and men under their commands. It does not require any statement from me to establish their reputation for gallantry and efficiency. The works that lie in sight of their battery are proofs of the accuracy of their aim and coolness under fire, and speak well for five days' work. All of my orders were promptly carried to the commanders of regiments by Lieut. R. E. Carrington and Aide-de-Camp Lieut. Henry Chapman. Their reputation for gallantry has been established on other fields and needed not this to confirm it. Among the wounded on the 3d were Capt. J. W. Thompson, Company H, Lane's regiment, severely; Sergt. J. Baker, Company E, Madison's regiment, and Sergeant Garner, West's battery, slightly.

On the 5th, a kind Providence protected us, and not a man was wounded.

On the 13th, the pickets of Hardeman's brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Waller commanding, began skirmishing with the enemy's advance 5 miles below Alexandria, and on the evening of the 15th, reached the position held by my brigade. We were ordered to hold the position till the gun-boats opened. The enemy drove our skirmishers rapidly, but were checked by West's battery. They then advanced in heavy force and we were ordered to withdraw. I ordered Lieutenant Brookshier, Company E, Chisum's regiment, to retire on the Marksville road that crosses Choctaw Bayou at Monett's Ferry and join the picket there commanded by Lieutenant Dudley, Company D, Lane's regiment, as well as the one from the mouth of the bayou, and ambuscade the enemy and annoy them in every possible way. The order was skillfully and promptly obeyed, inflicting quite a loss on the enemy.

On the 15th, the enemy began the attack on Bagby's division. My brigade was ordered to support him. We formed on the left and fell back with the line to the rear of Cocoville. The enemy

advanced, when skirmishing began. I have to mourn the loss of one of the bravest officers of the brigade killed here. Captain McKee, Company D, Madison's regiment, fell mortally wounded in a charge made on the enemy's pickets. Skirmishing continued till nightfall. My brigade, with Buchel's regiment, was left on picket. At daylight the enemy began advancing in force. I ordered out a strong line of skirmishers and, according to instructions, fell back slowly toward Mansura, and moved by the left oblique to uncover our batteries. The fighting was done entirely by artillery. At noon orders were brought me to fall back on the Long Bridge road, leaving a strong line of skirmishers out. The brigade moved back under a heavy artillery fire in as good order as though marching from dress parade.

On the morning of the 17th began the pursuit of the enemy, whose rear had now passed, Colonel Waller being in the advance with Hardeman's brigade. I ordered Capt. Jack Waterhouse, with 100 picked men from the brigade, to move down the right bank of Bayou De Glaize, and Captain Halley, with 40 men, to move down on the left bank and annoy the enemy in every way they could. Baylor's and Madison's regiments, by command of brigadier-general commanding division, were sent down the right bank with similar instructions. These orders were carried out strictly, to the great annoyance of the enemy. Fighting continued all day.

May 18, the division was ordered down to Norwood's farm, dismounted, and moved to a skirt of woods in advance of us half a mile. We occupied a ditch and built breast-works of rails. Were ordered back to Norwood's sugar-house, where we remained until ordered forward again. Advanced across the field in line of battle, Lane's regiment, Major Saufley commanding, on the left; Madison's and Baylor's, Colonel Madison and Lieutenant-Colonel Mullen commanding, center; Chisum's regiment, Lieut. Col. Crill Miller commanding, on the right. Our skirmishers began firing as soon as within reach of the timber before mentioned, the enemy's pickets having taken position there. As soon as the firing began I ordered the brigade to move up quickly, which they did with a yell, and we were soon in the woods, driving the enemy's cavalry before us until we reached a field, where we found a battery posted, supported by infantry. The fire now was very hot, but the men stood their ground well and drove nearly all the cannoneers from the guns. But the troops on the left having given way, I found Federal cavalry on either flank and a heavy force in front, and was compelled to fall back, which we did, disputing the ground inch by inch and inflicting quite a loss on the enemy. My loss was quite severe in wounded and prisoners, though but few killed. The regimental commanders and officers and men under them acted with great coolness, and to that fact alone I attribute our slight loss in comparison to other troops engaged. We had but a single line of cavalry, while the enemy had artillery, cavalry, and infantry in double rank with supports. I think both officers and men did all that could be expected of them. Had Terrell's regiment come up on our right I have every reason to believe we would have captured the enemy's battery and cut off their right from the main body, or have inflicted heavy loss on them.

I have to thank Brig. Surg. S. C. Oliver and his assistants for their attention to the wounded. I take great pleasure in calling your attention to the gallant conduct of the following-named offi-

cers: Captains Halley, King, and Carrington, of Baylor's regiment; Captains Wimberley, Waterhouse, and Edwards, of Lane's regiment; Lieutenants Brookshier, Moore, Gilbert, and Harding, of Chisum's regiment; Captains Hendrick, McKee, and Goodman, of Madison's regiment. Frequently in command of flanking parties and scouts, they were invaluable in ascertaining the position of the enemy and attacking him in moments of fancied security. To my staff I am under many obligations for promptness in carrying all orders and gallantry before the enemy. I would recommend them to your kind consideration. The following is a list of those who have served with me since Col. W. P. Lane was wounded: Lieut. R. E. Carrington, acting assistant adjutant-general, until May 14, since then Lieut. N. G. Davis, Company E, Baylor's regiment; Lieut. Henry Chapman, aide-de-camp, and Col. J. M. Anderson, volunteer aide. Capt. Walter Caruth, assistant quartermaster, and Capt. J. P. McKay, assistant commissary of subsistence to the brigade, and their assistants, are entitled to much praise for keeping the troops supplied during our rapid movements through a country desolated by the enemy and stripped of stores and forage.

I have the honor to be, captain, your very obedient servant,

GEO. WYTHE BAYLOR,
Colonel, Commanding Lane's Brigade.

Captain OGDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 101.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William Steele, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of operations April 22–May 18.

HEADQUARTERS STEELE'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
David's Landing, June 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report as follows concerning the operations of the troops under my command during the pursuit of the enemy from Grand Ecore to Simsport:

At 3.30 a. m. on April 22, while occupying a position at the forks of the road to Grand Ecore and Natchitoches, coming from Pleasant Hill, I received an order emanating from General Taylor to attack the enemy at daylight, and to push forward until I found some force in my front that I could not drive. Having but one regiment (Burford's) where it could be used at so short a notice, I moved with that as soon as the horses could be saddled. I found the enemy's pickets withdrawn and Grand Ecore evacuated. Turning by a cross-road, I encountered the rear guard of the enemy near Natchitoches and drove it rapidly through that town, from the hills of which large bodies of men could be seen moving off.

Having been directed to make a personal report, I proceeded from this point to General Taylor's headquarters. On my return I found that the other regiments of the brigade then under my command, and which had occupied the ground east of Sibley's Lake, had come into Natchitoches, and the whole force under Colonel Parsons, acting under orders, had followed the enemy and engaged him about 7 miles below town.

Major-General Wharton, recently assigned to the command of the cavalry, joined the troops at this point, and continued until the enemy had crossed Monett's Ferry to direct the operations in their

rear. I shall therefore pass over the actions 7 miles below Natchitoches, at Lecompte's plantation, near Cloutierville, and of the next day below that town, the continued fighting of the 22d, 23d, and 24th having been carried on, with the exception of the first attack, under the eye of the major-general commanding.

After our arrival at McNutt's Hill I was assigned with the brigade before mentioned to the duty of occupying the roads to Alexandria leading down Red River and Bayou Rapides. The enemy had been driven in close to the town and our pickets kept in sight of his.

Skirmishing was constant from April 29 to May 7, and several times the enemy came out in large force and drove us back, to be followed himself in his turn as soon as he retired. After a few days Captain Moseley's Texas battery was sent to me, with which the annoyance of the Federals was carried to the extent of throwing shells into their main camp. On May 5, we were driven back by a force immensely superior. On the 6th, again the enemy advanced and did not return to his former position. On the 7th, the advance was continued in spite of the stubborn resistance of my small force, which had been strengthened by West's battery and weakened by the temporary withdrawal of the Nineteenth (Burford's) Regiment. I retired as directed over Gordon's Bridge across Bayou Boeuf. The fighting had been heavy on the 5th, 6th, and 7th. On the last-mentioned day the artillery was used with great effect, one battery covering the movements of another, and finally the short-range pieces of both covering the retreat of the other sections over a narrow bridge, holding by rapid discharges of grape and canister a heavy infantry force in check until the bridge was passed and a position taken on the other side. One regiment (the Twenty-first, under Lieutenant-Colonel Giddings), being on the north side of Bayou Rapides, was directed to fall back in the direction of McNutt's Hill, which instructions were fully carried out, until Colonel Parsons, who was at that place sick, assumed to order Lieutenant-Colonel Giddings to Cotile, where he remained until ordered back to McNutt's Hill by General Taylor.

The enemy did not advance farther, but retired during the night to a position on a small bayou leading from Bayou Rapides to Bayou Boeuf, about 7 miles from Alexandria, where he remained until about to evacuate that city.

During these engagements the enemy's force, principally infantry, displayed a line more than three times the length of our single-rank cavalry formation. On the south side of Bayou Rapides it extended from Gordon's to the Bayou Boeuf timber. At the same time he had a large force on the north side, of which I did not have an accurate personal observation.

On the 8th instant, finding the enemy had again retired, I left, as instructed, the Twenty-first Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Giddings, to observe and annoy him on Bayou Rapides, and with the remaining portion of my command, viz, the Twelfth and Nineteenth Regiments (the Nineteenth having joined me during the night) and Morgan's battalion, proceeded to the position held by Brigadier-General Bee, on Bayous Boeuf and Lamourie, where I arrived May 9, and relieved the troops occupying that position and covering the road leading south via Cheneyville.

During the few days from the 9th to the 14th, skirmishing was constant and an attack made daily of sufficient vigor to bring out their line of infantry, in one of which (on the 10th) Captain Veal, of the

Twelfth Regiment, with a squadron charged and routed the picket and reserve picket of the enemy, and when stopped by the infantry line in his front returned to enjoy the coffee, &c., which had been prepared for the breakfast of the fugitives. Captain V[eal] received a severe wound in this attack. The enemy on these occasions showed no disposition to leave his position.

On the 14th, two regiments being in position to feel him, he was found to be leaving by way of a cross-road, which in 4 miles reached the road leading down the south side of Red River. The pursuit was commenced at once, and a sharp contest ensued in the timber bordering on Red River, where we were unable to force their position until their rear had passed. Small commands were then thrown on the flank of the enemy, but owing to the nature of the country with little general success. Captain Nunn, of Morgan's battalion, succeeded in getting a good position with his squadron and delivered an effective fire at short range.

On the 15th, having started Colonel Parsons with two regiments in the rear of the enemy and placed the Twenty-first (which had joined me by way of Alexandria) and Morgan's battalion to operate on his flank, I went forward to a road leading from Cheneyville to Red River, from which road the Second Louisiana Cavalry and Fifth Texas had reported to me during the night previous. I found these regiments engaged in repairing bridges over some small bayous, which were not put in a state of readiness until the enemy's rear had passed, as I found in moving forward immediately upon my arrival. These two regiments, under command of Colonel Vincent, Second Louisiana Cavalry, might have attacked with great effect had the proper energy been shown at a time when Colonel Parsons had engaged the enemy's rear within 3 miles of them. They were withdrawn that night to re-enforce General Wharton, who expected to and did engage the enemy in front the next morning. I followed in the rear with Parsons' brigade and attacked again near Marksville, where a wagon and 30 prisoners were captured, and several of the enemy's dead left on the field.

On the 17th, General Wharton having fallen in rear of the retreating foe, I joined him with the brigade under my command, and was immediately put in the advance. We skirmished and fought with the enemy until almost dark, when he opened a heavy fire of artillery upon us from a position which became better known as the battle-field of the next day.

The operations of the 18th, commencing with a charge of cavalry in two columns, under Lieutenant-Colonel Giddings, of the Twenty-first, and Major Williams, of the Nineteenth, having been under the personal observation of the major-general commanding, I will not embrace in this report, but will only state that my force on my left was weakened, and I prevented from strengthening it by the removal of a portion of my brigade without my knowledge by Brigadier-General Major, by whose order, I am informed by the regimental commanders, they were placed on the extreme right, in consequence of which disposition they were not to be found when much needed on the left.

The loss in killed and wounded during the operations referred to in the Twelfth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-first Regiments and Morgan's battalion Texas cavalry amounts to more than 200.

I cannot attempt to do justice to all of the officers and men of this command, all of whom were strangers to me when I joined them in

April; but as a body I do not believe there exists a brigade more cheerful under privations or more courageous in action. I have spoken of only one brigade, though a division commander, the Louisiana cavalry brigade assigned to me not having served under my command in any of the actions referred to.

Colonels Carter and Parsons, between whom there is a question of disputed precedence, have both at times commanded the brigade, Colonel Parsons commanding (Colonel Carter having temporarily waived his claim) until taken sick about May 1, and again part of the day on the 5th, Colonel Carter being brigade commander during his absence until May 13, during which time several engagements took place on Bayou Rapides, in which my whole force participated, particularly on the 5th, 6th, and 7th.

Colonel Parsons, during the time he was in command on Bayou Rapides, and afterward from Polk's plantation to the final engagement of the 18th, maintained the uniform steadiness which the commanding general had an opportunity of observing while in the immediate command of the troops in the rear of the retreating enemy.

[WM. STEELE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.]

[Colonel ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Miss. Dept.]

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HEADQUARTERS STEELE'S DIVISION OF CAVALRY,
June 6, 1864.

COLONEL: In sending up my report of actions from Grand Ecore down, which was made up amid a press of other business, I omitted to mention, as I intended to, the artillery officers who from time to time served under my command. Of these Captain Moseley was longest with me, and deserves especial mention for the manner in which he fought his battery. His officers and men behaved well, with the exception of Lieutenant Cooper, whose case has already been brought to your notice. Captain West, though with me but one day, was hotly engaged, and is, with his officers and men, entitled to much praise. Lieutenant Hume, with a section of the Valverde Battery, only was with the troops under my command during the pursuit from Alexandria, during which time Lieutenant Hume distinguished himself for the promptness with which he brought his section into action, his coolness under fire, and generally the skillful handling of his pieces.

[WM. STEELE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.]

[Colonel ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Miss. Dept.]

No. 102.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Samuel J. Ward, Jeffers' Missouri Cavalry, of skirmish at Campti.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT OF JEFFERS' REGIMENT,
At Campti, April 3, 1864.

COLONEL: More gun-boats have been arriving at Grand Ecore during the day. The enemy have there now ten gun-boats and four

transports. Transports had infantry on board. They have just landed a force on this side a short distance below the town and are skirmishing with my pickets, who report that they see infantry in rear of their cavalry. Their force or intentions have not yet been developed. General Liddell arrived here yesterday with a force of cavalry. He directs me to send a detachment to Sparta to scout that road down to the junction of the Alexandria and Monroe roads. I have ordered a detachment left at Minden for that duty.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. J. WARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Colonel ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Miss. Dept.]

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HDQRS. DETACHMENT OF JEFFERS' REGIMENT,
On Claiborne and Natchitoches Road, 16 *Miles from Campti, Monday Evening, April* 4, 1864.

COLONEL: As General Liddell informed me that he had furnished you with all information of the enemy up to leaving Campti this morning, it is not necessary that I should repeat it. My command and a portion of Colonel McNeill's had an engagement with a force of the enemy's cavalry and infantry this morning at Campti. The fight was a very fierce one and lasted two hours. We repulsed every advance with great loss to the enemy, sustaining but slight injury ourselves. Adjutant Allen, of my regiment, is mortally wounded. The enemy lost about 25 killed, with wounded in proportion. We held our position until they landed infantry in our rear, when we retired. The enemy did not pursue us.

General Liddell has moved to Springville, and I have fallen back to this point. Forage being very scarce, will be compelled to move a few miles farther up to-morrow. Will send a scout toward Campti to-morrow for information. They have not made any movement in this direction. My scouts will now cover this road and roads leading by Sparta.

I have the honor to be, colonel, your obedient servant,

SAM. J. WARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Detachment.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Trans-Miss. Dept., Shreveport, La.

No. 103.

Reports of Maj. Thomas A. Faries, C. S. Artillery, Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division, of engagements at Mansura and Yellow Bayou.

HDQRS. CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, SECOND INFANTRY DIV.,
In the Field, May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I took the position with the batteries of my command on the evening of May 15, instant, on the prairie, 1¼ miles south of and to the left of the village of Mansura,

on the left of the Second Infantry Division. The battery of two 30-pounder Parrott rifles on siege carriages, commanded by First Lieut. Maunsel Bennett, of Boone's (Louisiana) battery, at the entrance of a road running parallel to the Long Bridge road and leading to Bayou Rouge through the woods in our rear; Cornay's (Louisiana) battery, commanded by First Lieut. John B. Tarleton, was posted on the right and 600 yards in advance of the Parrott guns; Capt. J. T. M. Barnes' battery of Louisiana regulars on the left of and in advance of the 30-pounder Parrotts.

On the morning of the 16th instant, at 7 a. m., the enemy having appeared on the rolling prairie in our front with artillery, cavalry, and infantry, the two 30-pounder Parrott rifles opened with percussion shell at 1 mile distance. These shell proving defective by exploding prematurely soon after leaving the guns, the two Parrott rifles were advanced 600 yards, in line with the two light batteries, and commenced firing solid shot, which was continued and caused the batteries of the enemy to change position frequently during the morning. The two light batteries commenced firing at 7.30 a. m. at the batteries, cavalry, and skirmishers of the enemy, and continued the firing at intervals until 10.30 a. m. At 10 o'clock the trail of one of the 30-pounder Parrott guns became so injured by a shell from the enemy as to render it unserviceable. It was retired into the timber by the road in rear of my center. At the same time the 12-pounder howitzer section of Cornay's battery, under Lieut. Oscar D. Berwick, was moved to the extreme left of the line, supported by cavalry and infantry, where the enemy was massing his infantry in the rear of a heavy skirmish line. The howitzers opened on the enemy at from 200 to 300 yards with marked effect. At 10.30 a. m. I was ordered to retire the artillery, which was done by battery and by section, the howitzer section of Cornay's battery retiring last. The guns were then moved on the road through the woods in our rear in good order, moving with the infantry on the flanks.

The batteries of my command moved forward into battery under cover of Brig. Gen. X. B. Debray's brigade of Texas cavalry, deployed in my front. The Twenty-eighth Regiment Louisiana Infantry Volunteers, Colonel Pool, was deployed as skirmishers in my front as soon as it was uncovered by General Debray's cavalry, which retired by the right flank and reformed in my rear. Forty-one solid shot, 10 percussion-shell, and 25 fuse-shell—a total of 76 rounds—were fired from two 30-pounder Parrott rifles, Lieut. M. Bennett commanding; 71 solid shot, 50 spherical case, and 24 shell were fired from four 12-pounder field guns; 69 percussion and fuse shell from two bronze James rifles, and 25 shell from two bronze field howitzers (these eight guns composing the two light batteries commanded by Captain Barnes and Lieutenant Tarleton), making a total of 315 rounds fired by the battalion of ten guns. Owing to distance, the dust and mist which hung over the prairie, and the fact that the enemy's position was behind the crest of a ridge in the prairie, I was unable to observe the effect of all our shots, but the guns were well served and the firing very accurate and to the mark.

The enemy fired 3-inch, 12-pounder, and 20-pounder rifles, also 30-pounder Parrott shot and shell, with rapidity and with more accuracy than I have before observed, the most of his shot and shell falling in and near the batteries, but few of his shell exploding, however, which accounts for so few casualties.

The casualties in Cornay's battery were Private Boudreaux, left

thumb broken; Private Haydel, face and arms burnt by premature discharge of 12-pounder gun. In Boone's battery, Private Rodney, thigh broken by fragment of shell; Private Lemoine, slightly wounded in foot. In Barnes' battery, Private Bergeron, slightly wounded in leg by fragment of shell. Captain Barnes had 1 horse slightly wounded by fragment of shell.

The officers and men of all the batteries behaved with the most becoming coolness and gallantry and retired when directed in perfect order.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,

Major and Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division.

Maj. J. C. MONCURE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Infantry Division.

HDQRS. CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, SECOND INFANTRY DIV.,
In the Field, May 19, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I moved forward to Norwood's plantation, on Bayou De Glaize, with Captain Barnes and First Lieut. J. B. Tarleton, the latter commanding Cornay's (Louisiana) battery, on yesterday, the 18th instant, at 2 p. m., and placed the first-named battery in position on the extreme right of the line of guns near the ruins of the sugar-house and to the right of all the other batteries. The other, under Lieutenant Tarleton, was placed near the left of the line of artillery and to the right of the two batteries of horse artillery then in position on and near the Bayou De Glaize road. The enemy had one or two light batteries in position near the bayou in front of our left, in the edge of a point of woods, supported by a heavy line of skirmishers.

Our batteries commenced firing at 3 p. m., opening on the enemy's batteries, soon silencing his guns and causing the sharpshooters to retire. Soon after our front line of dismounted cavalry advanced and were pressed back by a heavy fire from a much superior force. Our batteries again opened on the enemy's line of infantry, their fire ceasing almost immediately, our front line retiring a short distance to reform under cover of the fire from our light batteries. Cornay's (Louisiana) battery, which was firing advancing by section, received the most of this fire, which was replied to by our entire line of batteries. Cornay's battery, Lieut. J. B. Tarleton commanding, retired firing by section under a very hot fire from enemy's sharpshooters and artillery. Immediately afterward Barnes' battery retired firing by section, with our other batteries on the right. The effect of our fire was marked; the enemy's infantry was driven back into the woods some distance and his batteries were silenced or retired as soon as our batteries on the extreme right opened on him from a new position in the field in rear of the first line. The firing having ceased near sunset the batteries were then moved to the bayou road and parked at the Cut-off.

Barnes' battery fired 17 solid shot and 40 shell from two bronze James rifles; also 8 solid shot and 7 shell from one 12-pounder field gun, distance varying from 800 to 1,000 yards. Cornay's battery fired 37 solid shot, 22 shell, and 40 spherical case from two 12-pounder field-guns; also 60 shell and 36 spherical case from two 12-pounder

field howitzers, distance varying from 500 to 800 yards. I have no casualties to report in either Barnes' or Cornay's battery. The last-named battery had 1 horse killed and 1 slightly wounded. The officers and men behaved with their noted coolness and gallantry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,
Major and Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division.

Maj. J. C. Moncure,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Infantry Division.

No. 104.

Report of Capt. Thomas O. Benton, Louisiana Artillery, of engagement at Deloach's Bluff.

Headquarters Benton's Louisiana Battery,
In the Field, April 27, 1864.

Sir: I would respectfully report that on the night of the 25th instant, at 12 o'clock, I received orders from Major-General Polignac to march as speedily as possible with my battery and report to Colonel Brent, at Mrs. Griffith's, on the Natchitoches road. Leaving the encampment beyond Cane River at 12.30 a. m. on the 26th, I arrived at Mrs. Griffith's at daylight and reported as ordered. At 8 a. m. we moved to a point near Deloach's Bluff. My rifle section, with a smooth-bore 6-pounder section of the Valverde Battery, were moved by hand to the front and placed in position on the bluff, bearing upon a gun-boat lying in Red River at about 450 yards distance. A second gun-boat was lying under the banks of the river and very near us, but so situated as to be completely shielded from our fire. At 10.30 a. m. we opened fire upon the gun-boat in the stream. She replied to us constantly for about thirty minutes, when immediately after, one of our shot having penetrated her, she ceased firing and moved down the river to a position about 1 mile off, only replying to us with her stern guns. The second gun-boat, situated near and under the river bank, kept up a continual fire of grape and canister during the entire engagement. My section fired 48 rounds, with what effect it is impossible for me to say, although our fire was accurate, a very large proportion of the shot striking and many of them penetrating her. After firing 18 rounds my iron rifle gun became unserviceable from the lodgment of a particle of a primer in the vent and was withdrawn. The rapidity of our fire was considerably interfered with by the failure of the friction primers. I had 1 horse killed and 2 others slightly wounded. A driver's saddle had a portion of the cantle shot away.

The section having been moved to the rear, at 2 p. m. we returned to the bluff with my howitzer section and bronze rifle gun and took a position on the north side of the bluff, having range up the river. No boats passed during the afternoon or night. The gun-boat lying below fired three times at us in the evening. At 10 a. m. of the 27th instant, by order of Major-General Wharton, we left our position and marched to camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. O. BENTON,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

Maj. T. A. Faries,
Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division.

No. 105.

Report of Brig. Gen. St. John R. Liddell, C. S. Army, commanding Sub-District of North Louisiana, of operations January 26–May 22.

HDQRS. SUB-DISTRICT OF NORTH LOUISIANA,
Minden, La., July 2, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the military operations in the Sub-District of North Louisiana during the period of the recent invasion by the enemy: On assuming command on January 26, the only military force I found was Col. Isaac F. Harrison's brigade of cavalry, consisting of one reduced regiment and two fractional battalions. These latter were in progress of organization, which was not completed before the available portion of the force was called into the field by the movements of General Banks on Red River. A large portion of the command had seen little or no service, was altogether undisciplined, armed with various weapons (shotguns, muskets, and rifles), and being destitute of cartridge-boxes these men were forced to carry their cartridges in their pockets, involving great waste. I was required by orders to picket the front, from the Arkansas line along Bayou Macon to Red River, a distance of not less than 100 miles. In addition, I was required, by orders from district and department headquarters, to burn all the cotton between the Ouachita and Mississippi Rivers. These requirements drew off a considerable portion of the force, and when ordered to move to Red River I could only gather together about 600 men, over 75 of whom deserted and joined the guerrilla bands in the different parishes in which they lived, disinclination to leave the neighborhood of their homes being one motive, probably, for their desertion, and hope of plunder and of comparative ease another.

There were two batteries of artillery in the command, two sections only of which—consisting of two 6-pounder smooth-bores and two 12-pounder howitzers—were available, though the horses were in poor condition. With this force I moved in the direction of Campti, on Red River, having previously sent in advance Colonel McNeill's battalion to operate on the gun-boats of the enemy coming up the Red River. A part of my force was posted on each of the two roads leading from Campti to Coushatta Chute, one road following the river bank and the other, called the military or ridge road, diverging from the town and running generally parallel with the first at a distance of 3 or 4 miles apart. The enemy disembarked a portion of his infantry force and moved up the river road half a mile above town and attacked that portion of my command under Colonel McNeill, who had but 120 men with him, including a company of Missouri cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Ward. Colonel McNeill engaged the enemy for two hours, but finding his ammunition becoming exhausted withdrew his command, after inflicting considerable damage upon them, and attempted by my orders to draw him on by an intersecting road to the ridge road, where he would unite with the main body to resist any farther advance. I had determined to attack this force, however disproportionate to my own, when I was informed by Col. Isaac F. Harrison, the immediate commander of the brigade under my command, that his men could not be relied upon to fight infantry, and that he himself, knowing the material

of which his brigade was composed, was unwilling to attempt any hazardous enterprise, and this disinclination to risk his command prevailed with him to the end while under my direction. In consequence of these representations and the immediate retirement of the enemy to their boats (they not having come out more than half a mile), my design was not executed. The enemy, instead of pushing after Lieutenant-Colonel McNeill, as was expected, retreated to his boats, burned a portion of Campti, re-embarked, and moved up the river. On finding this to be the case I sent to the river at various points detachments of sharpshooters, to fire upon all exposed men on the boats, keeping up this annoyance to the enemy as far as the mouth of Boggy Bayou. At Grappe's Bluff the armed steamer Benefit was disabled by the two sections of artillery at 100 yards' range.

On April 11, the fleet started back from the mouth of Boggy Bayou. From that time to the 15th I kept the boats constantly annoyed with sharpshooters and checking the progress of the entire fleet at Berdelon's Point for twenty-four hours with the two sections of artillery under command of Captain Fauntleroy, until it became necessary for them to send out a considerable force of infantry from their boats to cover their passage down. On their return to Campti, which was not far from Berdelon's Point by land, by way of retaliation, they burned the remaining portion of the place. The boats having reached Grand Ecore, where General Banks was moving his force with the supposed intention of crossing to the east side of Red River, it became necessary for me to cross Black Lake to get below them and to head Saline Lake to get below Saint Maurice, which is at the mouth of Saline Bayou, on Red River. Here I was compelled to send the artillery to the rear on account of the great difficulty in crossing these lakes and the poor condition of the horses, and before it could reach me again it was ordered to Arkansas, the order from department headquarters reaching it when within a few miles of my camp, giving it that destination.

On the 17th, while camped on Bayou Des Cedars, 8 miles from Saint Maurice, a force of the enemy attempted to surprise my camp, but were repulsed and retired hastily, followed by a squadron, which found them prepared to receive us at Strong's Ferry with artillery and quite a large force of cavalry, which had been turned back from the intended surprise by the confusion at the head of their column and by exaggerated reports of the strength of my command.

From that time to the 27th, the enemy seeming to be stationary above Saline Bayou and at Grand Ecore, I could only use detachments of sharpshooters on the river operating against those boats that were passing down to Alexandria. Such being the position of the enemy—stationary at Natchitoches and at Grand Ecore (150 miles by water and 70 by land from Alexandria), and reported to be on short rations—it occurred to me that a direct movement of our forces upon Alexandria to destroy the supplies already accumulated there, and to prevent the passage of transports up the river carrying supplies and re-enforcements, would tend largely to demoralize and disintegrate the army under General Banks, placing at the same time the fleet of the enemy more completely in our power than was possible at any other point, and leaving a retreat by him to Natchez as the only alternative.

I had the honor to suggest this movement to the major-general commanding the District of West Louisiana, but the only intimation received by way of answer was that he intended to drive them "in"

and "out" of Alexandria. From that time my action seemed almost uniformly to meet with the disapprobation of the major-general commanding District of West Louisiana. Nor can I deem that he acted justly toward me or becomingly to himself in not sending a competent staff officer to examine into the causes of such portions of my conduct as he complained of before publishing his dissatisfaction.

In accordance with the foregoing strategic views, on April 24, at 6 a. m., I pushed my little command into Pineville, making 90 miles in thirty-six hours, fired into the gun-boats that were in Alexandria, and was fired upon by artillery from the opposite side, which after a few rounds suddenly ceased and withdrew to the rear of Alexandria. It was supposed that the enemy apprehended a co-operating attack from that side, thus indicating his weakness and the correctness of my conclusions as to the propriety of an attack upon Alexandria. Finding I could do nothing more, the stores and boats being all on the opposite side, I withdrew the command to Bynum's Mill. The enemy's boats having not yet passed down, I pushed a squadron into the river at Montgomery's, a regiment opposite Deloach's Bluff, and the remainder of the command still farther below, at Bush's place. I continued the sharpshooting on the river until the 28th, when it was discovered that a cavalry force of several hundred men was moving toward my rear late in the evening. This afterward proved to be a party making a reconnaissance of my position, and which returned to Pineville the same night. On the 29th, I sent detachments on the river around Pineville to make demonstrations on the forces guarding the works at the falls. On the night of the 30th, the enemy moved out a brigade of cavalry from Pineville, reported 2,000 strong, a battery of artillery, followed by infantry, which last was delayed on the road until the cavalry should get into position in my rear. My command was then at Thornton's place, on Bayou Rigolette. As soon as this movement to attempt to capture my command was discovered, knowing that the enemy would fall upon my camp early next morning, I threw out two squadrons to find out his exact locality, and moving the remainder of my command under cover of darkness by a detour to the left, about sunrise next morning fell upon his rear at Hadnot's place, surprising him instead of being surprised. Attacking him on the flank as well as rear, and charging him hotly, compelled him to withdraw hastily and in confusion to Pineville, pursued by a portion of my command. His infantry force had not been able to come up, as the capture of a staff officer of General Banks prevented the order being conveyed to it. The enemy's force was henceforth concentrated at Alexandria, occupying both sides of the river, and engaged in constructing works on the river for the passage of the boats, his infantry from the transports and gun-boats guarding this operation being not far from 4,000 men. Having no artillery, I was unable from this time to do much more than skirmish with him whenever opportunity presented and observe his movements.

On May 6, an attack was made by the enemy on our forces on the opposite side of the river, driving them back far toward the rear in the direction of McNutt's Hill. Not understanding it, I sent an officer over to ascertain the facts, if possible. At the same time the two 24-pounders sent from the Ouachita had reached the vicinity of Bynum's Mill, 8 miles from my encampment. As a precautionary measure I withdrew the available forces, except the pickets to cover

these guns, between Bynum's Mill and Callom's plantation until I could ascertain the facts inducing the retrograde movement of Major-General Taylor on the opposite side. Soon after I received a communication from him stating that he had been driven back from one point, repulsing the enemy at another, desiring to hear the sound of my guns, and ordering me to harass the enemy constantly at Pineville and in their works at the falls, the failure to do so being inexcusable, not to be overlooked by him, but would necessitate a change in the command.

The next day I received an order to move with all my command that was not absolutely required to observe the movements of the enemy at Pineville, so as to operate with Generals Polignac and Major on the river below Wilson's plantation, 35 miles below Alexandria by water. Non-compliance with the first order would necessitate my being relieved from command, while the second was in direct conflict with the first, and obeying one would be to disobey the other. Such being the case, I deemed it my duty, as well from self-respect as a wish to see a more competent man substituted, to request to be relieved, satisfied that I could not reconcile the conflicting orders, accompanied particularly with a gratuitous threat. The headquarters of the major-general commanding was too far distant on the Bayou Rapides to hear, as he so much desired, the sound of my musketry, and he well knew that I had no artillery. I, however, obeyed the last of the orders above named, and moved with my command to the point designated below Alexandria, a short distance above General Major's command, which was on the opposite side. The effective strength of the command before leaving the vicinity of Pineville was 570 men, one or two companies having just rejoined their commands (after having executed the orders to burn cotton) and swelling it to that number. On moving below it was necessary to leave two companies to protect the two 24-pounders (which, being drawn by oxen, were very slow in movements) and one company to observe the movements of the enemy at Pineville. This force being deducted from my previous effective strength left me a force of 450 men to operate with below. On the 10th, I received an order relieving me, in compliance with my request.

Pending these operations on Red River I sent a company under Captain Gillespie to occupy the country between Harrisonburg and the mouth of Black River, with a view to intercept any communications the enemy might attempt with Natchez. On its way, falling in with a company of jayhawkers, under the notorious Bob Taliaferro, it attacked them and killed 11. While my command was engaged on Red River the country on Bayou Macon became infested with bodies of men styling themselves guerrillas, who were engaged in plundering plantations of negroes, mules, and horses, and selling them at designated points. In consequence of my being relieved from command I was unable to redress this evil, an inability which I deeply regret.

In conclusion, I can justly state that on each occasion in which the enemy moved out from the river on the east side he was driven back; that all was done against gun-boats and transports that could be inflicted with small-arms alone, having no artillery except on the occasions named, as I have before said, with which to operate. The two 24-pounders arrived just before I was ordered away from the river, and the rapidity of my subsequent movements did not admit of their co-operation, as they were drawn by oxen. It could not be

a matter of surprise that with my handful of men I was unable to prevent the construction of the dams at the falls of Red River by the enemy, since the large forces on the other side likewise failed to prevent that construction with equal if not greater opportunities.

The troops under my command behaved, with few exceptions, better than I expected under the impressions received from Colonel Harrison's representations. I may be allowed, however, to select for special commendation and respectfully to recommend to the attention of the general commanding Lieut. Col. F. W. Moore and Capts. R. Sewell and H. P. Wells, of Harrison's regiment; Major Waddill, of McNeill's regiment, and Capt. W. H. Corbin, of Capers' regiment, all of whom were conspicuous for gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore is competent to fill a much higher position than he now occupies. I am grateful to my staff for their faithful and efficient discharge of their respective duties.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL,
Brig. Gen., Provisional Army Confederate States.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE WILLIAMSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Trans-Mississippi Dept.

No. 106.

Confederate Roll of Honor.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 64. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., August* 10, 1864.

I. The following Roll of Honor is published in accordance with paragraph I, General Orders, No. 131, 1863. It will be read to every regiment in the service at the first dress parade after its receipt:

* * * * * * *

BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL.

MISSOURI.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

Capt. William Dings, Co. C.
First Lieut. James T. Otey, Co. A.
First Lieut. Josiah Rodgers, Co. K.
Senior Second Lieut. W. P. Thomas, Co. B.
Senior Second Lieut. William H. Frazier, Co. K.
Junior Second Lieut. J. W. Rogers, Co. H.

Ninth Regiment of Infantry.

First Sergt. Thompson Fry, Co. E.
Private James Wood Co. I.

Tenth Regiment of Infantry.

Private A. J. Hutchison, Co. E.
Private Ozias Denton, Co. F.
Sergt. James F. Hollinsworth, Co. G.
Sergt. James C. Dyer, Co. K.

Eleventh Regiment of Infantry.

Private Harris Woods, Co. A.
Private Peter Black, Co. B.
Private James Pruitt, Co. C.
Private J. M. Brown,* Co. D.
Private Hardy Logan,* Co. F.
Private William Hale,* Co. F.
Private S. C. Smith,* Co. G.
Private Richard Vallandingham, Co. H.
Sergt. Henry W. Davidson,* Co. I.
Private John Saye, Co. K.

Company E on detached service.

Company F could not decide between Privates Logan and Hale; both distinguished themselves for courage, and were killed in the action.

Twelfth Regiment of Infantry.

Private J. W. Kilgore, Co. A.
Private William Lackey, Co. B.
Corpl. C. M. Farris, Co. C.
Sergt. James Woodsides, Co. D.
Private L. B. Charlton, Co. E.
Private Jesse Bounds, Co. F.
Private David Murrell, Co. G.
Sergt. William Kemp, Co. H.
Sergt. G. W. Sells, Co. I.
Private John Gacey, Co. K.

Sixteenth Regiment of Infantry.

Private Thomas B. Ramey,† Co. C.
Second Sergt. M. A. Price,* Co. D.
Private D. P. Neel, Co. F.
Private Lewis Pounds, Co. H.
Private Hugh Sharp, Co. I.
Private James F. Nevitt, Co. K.

Other companies declined making selections.

Ninth Battalion of Sharpshooters

Private E. D. Rutter, Co. A.
Private Henry Manesy, Co. B.
Private W. Clay Green, Co. C.
Sergt. Joseph White,* Co. D.

* * * * * * *

By order:

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

MARCH 13, 1864.—Skirmish at Los Patricios, Tex.

Report of Maj. Mat. Nolan, C. S. Army.

HDQRS. EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, LINE OF THE NUECES,
Banquete, March 15, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on Sunday last, 13th instant, at about 7.30 a. m., at or near a place known as Los Patricios, about 50 miles southwest from this point, I succeeded in coming up with a body of the enemy's cavalry posted in a dense mesquital, attacked them at once, and, after a well-contested fight of some fifteen minutes' duration, dispersed and routed them completely. Owing to his position in the mesquital the exact number of the enemy could not be ascertained, but from appearances I believe that there were at least 125 men, completely armed with Burnside carbines, revolvers, and sabers, while my force, composed of detachments from Ware's, Cater's, Taylor's, Scott's, Richardson's, and Tate's companies, numbered only 62, many of whom were most indifferently armed. The enemy was commanded by Cecilio Balerio and his son Juan Balerio in person, who, at the head of 80 men, charged and fought us most gallantly, and could only be repulsed after a desperate fight and at the cost of much blood and property.

The casualties are as follows: Captain Cater's company, Third

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* Killed in action.
† Afterward killed at Jenkins' Ferry.

Sergt. W. L. Patterson, killed; Captain Taylor's company, Private Henry Tugle, killed, Private Michael McMahon, mortally wounded; Captain Scott's company, Private James Powers, slightly wounded; in Captain Taylor's company 2 horses killed and 5 wounded; in Captain Tate's company 1 horse killed. There was captured and taken from the enemy 31 horses, 42 saddles and bridles, 25 sabers, 107 blankets, 6 Colt revolvers, 5 Burnside carbines, and some camp and garrison equipage.

Among some papers found was a letter to Balerio, signed with initials only, dated Camargo, March 2, 1864, and informing him that his recruits have gone forward, and that the forces under Col. John L. Haynes have left the Rio Grande and are on the march to relieve and re-enforce the said Balerio. As a sufficient time had elapsed to enable said forces to have reached or be within striking distance of Balerio, considering the smallness of my force, the condition of my wounded (being without medical aid and without transportation), the impracticability of pursuit owing to the density and extent of the mesquital, and the distance from my support, I deemed it prudent and necessary to destroy such of said property as was not required and fit for use by the men on the spot, to replace either their lost, killed, or unserviceable horses, arms, or equipments, and thereupon returned to camp on the San Fernando. The loss of the enemy must have been severe. Five dead bodies were found in the mesquital, but from the trails seen, showing that men had been dragged off when wounded, and pools of blood discovered, it is almost certain that at least 12 or 15 were killed or wounded. A large number of their horses were left on the ground either killed or wounded.

Captain Ware, of Colonel Buchel's regiment, Captains Cater, Taylor, and Richardson commanded detachments from their respective companies, and acted with conspicuous gallantry. The men behaved coolly and bravely.

As soon as the reports of the various commanders are received I will forward a full and detailed account.

A report, apparently well authenticated, has just reached me that the Yankees from Mustang Island landed at the mouth of the Oso yesterday (Monday) evening, and were engaged in getting some 100 bales of cotton heretofore secreted in that vicinity. They had caught and again made prisoner of William S. Gregory. I go in a few moments with 70 picked men to find and, if possible, capture them and their booty. As soon as something definite occurs I will inform you by express.

As I before wrote you, a section of a light battery with proper ammunition could render me most important service. I would urge upon you to hurry it forward; also, surgical instruments and medicines.

As you will perceive by the intercepted letter, the Yankee land forces in this vicinity have been or will be increased, and I am too weak to attempt to accomplish much against such superior numbers. For this reason I must again urge you to send re-enforcements.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAT. NOLAN,
Major, Provisional Army, C. S., Commanding.

Col. JOHN S. FORD,
Comdg. Expeditionary Forces, P. A., C. S., San Antonio.

MARCH 13-26, 1864.—Scouts from Yellville to Buffalo River, Ark.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of Southwest Missouri for March, 1864.

March 13.—Capt. Samuel E. Turner, commanding detachment of the Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, numbering 109 men, marched from Yellville, Ark., to Buffalo River; came in contact with numerous small squads of guerrillas; destroyed some extensive saltpeter-works on Tomahawk Mountains; found a large amount of stolen property concealed in caves.

March 19.—Returned to Yellville, having marched about 200 miles, killed 10 bushwhackers, captured 13 (1 a rebel lieutenant), 22 stands of arms, and 28 horses and mules.

March 24.—Marched again from the same place with 105 men; attacked a small band under command of Captain Love 25 miles south of Yellville, on Buffalo River; had a sharp skirmish, killing 3 and capturing a number of horses and arms; returned to Yellville on the 26th instant.

March 28.—Captain Headlee, commanding a small detachment of the Sixth Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, returned to Yellville, bringing 18 prisoners, 1 a captain and recruiting officer for the rebel army. Captain Headlee reports to have killed 6 and wounded several without sustaining any loss.

Captain Orr, commanding detachment Second Arkansas Cavalry, marched from Rolling Prairie as escort to C. P. Walker, special Treasury agent, to Batesville, Ark.; had a slight skirmish on the 19th instant with a band under Colonel Love; wounded 1 and captured 2. Had several skirmishes on their return, killing in all 37 men, capturing 6 prisoners, 26 horses, 16 stand of arms, and wounding 2 and recovering 3 prisoners.

MARCH 15-21, 1864.—Scout from Batesville to West Point, Grand Glaize, Searcy Landing, &c., Ark.

Report of Maj. Lewis C. Pace, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

BATESVILLE, ARK., *March* 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report: In obedience to your letter of instructions bearing date March 15, 1864, I divided my command immediately after crossing White River and sent 100 men, under command of Captain Collier, directing him to move by way of Fair View to West Point, on Little Red River, which order he executed. I moved with the other 100 down White River; went into Camp Livingston, in Oil Trough Bottom, 8 miles west of Jacksonport. From this point, on the morning of the 17th instant, I moved south to Grand Glaize, in White County, a distance of 12 miles; from Grand Glaize I moved southwest in the direction of West Point. Seven miles from Grand Glaize, at one William Plant's, I captured a mail from the Southern army. The letters were dated March 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, and were written at Camp Sumpter, 9 miles from Little Red River. No official information, however, of importance could be obtained, and they being more of a matrimonial character than otherwise, I returned them to Mr. Plant,

whose house seems to be a depot for Southern mails. I went into Camp Wood, 5 miles from West Point. On Friday morning, the 18th instant, I rejoined Captain Collier's detachment and moved up Little Red River to Searcy Landing. At this point there is a large flat-boat used as a ferry-boat, and some 10 or 15 men are engaged building another much larger than the one now used. These two boats are sufficiently large and lengthy to construct a bridge across the river by the addition of 10 feet from each bank and 15 feet in the center. From this point I moved north and west into Camp Harris, 6 miles from Little Red River and 5 miles from Cedar Grove. From this point I moved west directly up the river; crossed Big Creek, moved on in the direction of Sugar Loaf Spring. Here I received definite information that Captain Little was encamped on the opposite side of the river and near Sugar Loaf Spring. Here I received information that a soldier who had deserted my command the night before was in advance of me inquiring for Little's camp. I immediately selected 100 of my best horses and crossed Red River, moving as rapidly as possible, but the deserter before mentioned had reached Little's camp and given information of our approach. I found on reaching his camp that he had been gone some forty or fifty minutes. We chased him some 3 miles; his command scattered, and night coming on we gave up the chase, returning to his (Little's) camp. On Sunday morning, 19th instant, I recrossed the river and moved up in the direction of Kinderhook. I crossed Rutherford's trail 15 miles below Kinderhook. I went into Camp Collier, 10 miles below Kinderhook, at 2 p. m., and sent out scouts toward that place and other points to gain, if possible, some information of the whereabouts of Rutherford, and the information was such as led me to believe that he had moved from Little Red River over onto White River in the neighborhood of Buck Horn. I accordingly moved up 8 miles northeast and made a forced march of 40 miles to Richwood's, hoping to intercept Rutherford, should he be moving up the river. Went into Camp Ribble, at Colonel Kemp's. Here I ascertained that he had not gone up the river. I accordingly moved down the river through Buck Horn. Here I could gain no information of Rutherford. The time specified for my scout having expired, the men being without rations, and many of my horses being barefooted, I crossed White River near Heath's Ferry and came into this station. On the 21st instant I captured, on Raccoon Creek, Izard County, Captain Hancock and 3 other soldiers of the Confederate Army. I also captured 2 soldiers of the Confederate Army near Grand Glaize, all of whom I turned over to the provost-marshal at Batesville. The country over which I traveled is a rough, rocky, and mountainous country, destitute of forage excepting in the valleys and coves of the mountains, and very little can be found in them. The farmers generally are busily engaged preparing their ground for planting, and express a great desire for peace on any terms. I also learned that McRae's camp was near Augusta and that Freeman's camp was a few miles above Augusta. The time consumed in my scout was seven days and the distance traveled 206 miles.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

L. C. PACE,

Major Eleventh Missouri Cav. Vols., Comdg. Detachment.

Colonel LIVINGSTON,

Commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

MARCH 16-25, 1864.—Scout from Pilot Knob, Mo., to the Arkansas line, and skirmishes.

Report of Maj. James Wilson, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry, commanding expedition.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Pilot Knob, Mo., March 26, 1864.

COLONEL: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 76, headquarters Post of Pilot Knob, I left this post at 2 p. m. on the 16th March with 100 men, and encamped 3 miles north of Buford's Ford, on Black River.

On the 17th, I passed through Barnesville and encamped 6 miles from Current River, on Hen Peck Creek.

18th, took the main Alton road and encamped 3 miles north of Eleven Points River. After having encamped I sent a scout of 20 men, under the command of Lieutenant Blain, to look after some desperadoes on Spring Creek. About 4 miles from camp he discovered some 8 or 10 in an old house and charged upon them. The rebels fired a volley from the windows and door, killing 1 private (Thorpe), of Company D, and wounding Sergeant Burks, of the same company; then availing themselves of some rugged bluffs in the rear of the house, made their escape, abandoning their horses.

On the morning of the 19th, I scoured the hills of Eleven Points River, and then proceeded through Alton to Frederick's Fork, and encamped.

On the 20th, I took the Alton and Pocahontas road and moved forward in the direction of Pocahontas. About noon we came upon a rebel conscripting party. The advance charged upon them, killing 8, wounding 1 mortally, and capturing the remainder of the squad. On the afternoon of the same day a man was shot and killed by the advance guard in attempting to make his escape from a house. We encamped at McElroy's, 10 miles from Pocahontas.

On the morning of the 21st, I moved forward to Pocahontas. Finding nothing there I took the road to Warm Sulphur Springs, then a due west course to Eleven Points River, and encamped.

On the 22d, I marched toward the headwaters of the Fourche à Thomas. Moving up that creek, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon we encountered Captain Payton with his company of horse-thieves and murderers. He drew up in line and fired upon the advance without effect, when, bringing my men forward at the gallop, I ordered a charge. The men went into them with a yell, killed 11, and pursued the remainder for miles across the hills, dispersing them in every direction. I encamped at this place for the night.

On the 23d, took the Van Buren road, passed through that place and Patterson, arriving at this post on the evening of the 25th, having been absent nine and one-half days, traveled more than 300 miles, killed 21 guerrillas, captured 11 prisoners, some 12 horses, some arms, &c. The whole country through which I passed is infested with small bands of guerrillas, their principal headquarters being in Oregon County, and commanded by Captains Payton, Long, and Evans. Kitchen, Freeman, and Love have concentrated for some purpose a force of about 500 men east of Black River, near Jacksonport. Reves has about 90 men 15 miles southeast of Pocahontas. No considerable force can exist for any length of time north of Pocahontas, there being no forage in the country. It was

with the utmost difficulty that I could obtain forage for 100 men by taking all I could find. There was about 15 feet of water in Black River at Pocahontas. I could not find any of Colonel Livingston's scouts; they never came up to the Missouri line.

JAMES WILSON,
Maj. 3d Mo. State Militia Cavalry, Comdg. Expd. to Ark.

Lieut. Col. JOHN N. HERDER,
Commanding Post of Pilot Knob.

MARCH 17, 1864.—Affair at Corpus Christi, Tex.

Report of Maj. Mat. Nolan, C. S. Army.

HDQRS. EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, LINE OF THE NEUCES,
Banquete, March 21, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 11th instant. I informed you in my communication of the 15th instant of my starting to find and, if possible, capture the Yankees reported landed at the Oso and collecting cotton. I now have to report that on Tuesday, 15th instant, I left this post for the Oso. Found the Yankees had been landed as represented to the number of 93; had already collected a lot of bales of cotton, and with it left for Corpus Christi on Wednesday, 16th instant, at 9 a. m. I found two wagons with mule teams loading with cotton at the house of W. S. Gregory. Thomas S. Parker, his son, Peter Parker, and a negro, the property of Mrs. Widow Johnson, were engaged at the cotton. I arrested these parties, and at once sent them to this post under guard with the wagons and teams and eleven bales of cotton. In the mean time, my scouts having learned the strength of the enemy, and that they had sent for and momentarily expected re-enforcements by boats from Mustang Island, I at once sent a courier to Captain Ware, commanding camp on San Fernando, and ordered him to re-enforce me with 40 men. I then proceeded toward Corpus Christi in pursuit of the enemy. At 1 p. m. found his pickets and ascertained that the main body of his forces were posted at the landing and wharf in houses behind some ninety-five bales of cotton, brought in from the Oso and other points. At the same time discovered three sailing vessels beating in to their relief. I then awaited my re-enforcements. About dusk the enemy's vessels effected a landing, and disembarked about 75 men. About the same time my courier returned from Captain Ware, but without the required re-enforcements, as will be seen by the reply, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.* Being thus unable to attack the enemy with any show of success with the force at my command, I invested the town closely all night with a view to prevent communication, and, if possible, pick up any small party that might be thrown out by the enemy. On Thursday following, the 17th instant, at about 11 a. m., having concealed my force in the chaparral, with a picked party of 2 officers and 7 men, in person, I successfully drove into town the enemy's pickets on the south side of the town, killing 1 and wounding 1 man and capturing 1 Enfield rifle. In this affair Private Lawrence Dunn, of Captain Ware's company, Colonel Buchel's regiment, was shot through the arm, but not dangerously wounded.

*Not found.

The enemy rallying and now throwing out a heavy force, I retired before him to the line of chaparral, and thence kept him within the town. In the course of the day the cotton was taken on board the vessels at the wharf, and at 10 o'clock at night the whole force embarked and left, taking with them several families of renegades—women and children. Owing to the latter fact and that the town was full of helpless women and children, many of whom the families of soldiers serving in our army, and knowing that a fight in the town could not but expose these parties to great danger and risk of loss of life even, I did not deem it proper to enter the town upon the heels of the enemy and attempt to harass or annoy his embarkation. On Friday, the 18th instant, still keeping the town invested and my main force concealed, I entered the town with a party of 20 men. Found that the enemy had made close search for Capt. S. W. Fullerton, a private citizen, and for Alexander Stringer, assessor and collector, with a view to their arrest, but without success. They had searched the dwelling of Colonel Lovenskiold and the residence of my family, arrested Miss McMahon, and kept her confined under guard, mistaking her for Mrs. Nolan, but on ascertaining their mistake released her; also Miss Savoy, mistaking her for a Miss Mullen, a sister of a soldier in our army. The families of J. M. Howell (a citizen prisoner in their hands), Lovenskiold, and Mrs. McMahon were kept closely within their own dwellings. On the house occupied by the family of Howell they raised the Union flag. Several male citizens were arrested, kept confined the day of my skirmish, but released on their departure. The renegades H. W. Berry, Christian Anderson, John Cody, Thomas Tinney, and several others, were seen with the enemy and under arms.

After removing a lot of bales of bagging, on Friday evening I withdrew from the town, no appearance of an enemy in any direction, and returned with my force to this point. Find all quiet in front, and nothing new from the line of the San Fernando. Up to the present writing no re-enforcements or additional troops have arrived or reported to me, nor has any artillery been received.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAT. NOLAN,
Major, Provisional Army, C. S., Commanding.

Col. John S. Ford,
Comdg. Expeditionary Forces, P. A. C. S., San Antonio.

MARCH 17-APRIL 1, 1864.—Scout from Lebanon, Mo., into Northern Arkansas, and skirmishes.

Report of Col. Joseph J. Gravely, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Hdqrs. Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry,
Lebanon, Mo., April 2, 1864.

General: I have the honor to inform you that Lieut. William T. Chitwood, Company G, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, sent out on a scout by your order of 17th March, returned to Lebanon last evening, and reports that he marched to Thomasville, Oregon County, Mo., without anything of interest transpiring. On 26th of

March he heard of rebels near Spring River Mills in Arkansas. Marched south on 26th, and when near the Arkansas line discovered fresh trail of horses, coming north from direction of the mills. Turned west. In following trail learned that they were rebels under command of Capts. B. Chambers and Kitchen; followed them about 8 miles and came in sight of them, about 30 or 35 in number. Selected 20 of his best mounted men, and watched a favorable opportunity to attack them, which was presented by rebels turning the point of a hill in a ravine, concealing his approach until he was quite near them; ordered a charge, and rushed up among the enemy, taking them by surprise. In the charge Captain Chambers and 4 of his men were killed and the remainder fled, scattering in all directions. They attempted to form for a fight on side of the mountain, but with little success. The only injury the lieutenant's command sustained was the wounding of 3 horses of his command, his own being one of the number. He left the place where the fight occurred and went 6 miles to obtain forage—he had had none for two days. The enemy had much the best horses, and he was unable to overtake them after they fled. Captain Chambers had quite a number of letters from Southern soldiers to their friends in Missouri; letters stated that they had an opportunity to send their letters. He had a Confederate battle-flag and Confederate money. His orders herewith inclosed.

On the 27th, Lieutenant Chitwood learned, by passing himself for a secessionist, that Captain Evans, a bushwhacker, had 5 or 6 men following him and watching his movements. He left a sergeant and 5 men on side of the road, and about 11 o'clock, 27th, 3 men passed along on his trail; they were fired upon, and 1 man killed, which proved to be Lieutenant Roberts, of Captain Evans' company; the other 2 made their escape. The lieutenant says that he learned, from what he considers reliable information, that Colonel Freeman's command, numbering 500 or 600 men, was near Pocahontas at the time; says that he could not obtain any forage of any consequence in Oregon County; that his horses were broken down, several of them having to be abandoned; that he believed that after the fight on the 26th that all gangs of rebels in Oregon County made for Freeman's command, and that they would not return without a sufficient force to overpower him, and that he therefore returned; his command reached Gasconade last night. The lieutenant reports that Captain Chambers and several of the men's horses were shot, so as to be worthless; that he captured 2 horses which were not injured, which were rode in by men of his command, whose horses were wounded and had to be abandoned.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. J. GRAVELY,
Colonel Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

General J. B. SANBORN,
Springfield, Mo.

[Inclosures.]

MILITARY SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 12. } EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF MISSOURI, *Little Rock, Ark., June 27, 1863.*

I. Col. Waldo P. Johnson, of the Provisional Army of the Confederate States of America, having been authorized by Lieutenant-

General Smith, commanding the Trans-Mississippi Department, to go into the State of Missouri and there enlist, for twelve months, volunteer companies for the service of the Confederate States, authority is hereby granted to Col. Waldo P. Johnson, by himself, or his agent therefor by him appointed in writing, to impress, in the name of the State of Missouri and on its credit, all supplies which he may deem necessary or useful in his recruiting service.

II. Whenever supplies are impressed under this order, a written certificate shall be given to the person from whom the same are impressed, setting forth the quantity, description, and market value thereof, the person from whom and the place at which they are taken, that the same are impressed under this order, and that compensation will hereafter be made therefor on satisfactory evidence of the loyalty of the owner thereof to the State of Missouri and the Confederate States of America during the present war.

III. A full and accurate account shall be rendered to the quartermaster-general of State of Missouri of all property impressed under this order, specifying as far as possible the supplies used before and those used after the muster into the Confederate service of the company to which the recruits receiving such supplies may belong.

IV. Every appointment by Col. Waldo P. Johnson of an agent under this order shall be accompanied by a copy of this order, certified by Col. Waldo P. Johnson, and no such agent shall have any authority to appoint any sub-agent, unless expressly thereto authorized in writing by Col. Waldo P. Johnson.

THOS. C. REYNOLDS,
Governor of Missouri and
Commander-in-Chief Missouri State Guards.

A true copy:

WALDO P. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fourth Missouri Infantry.

JUNE 27, 1863.

Having authorized Col. Edward B. Hull to recruit in the State of Missouri, he is hereby authorized to exercise the following powers granted in the foregoing order of Thomas C. Reynolds, Governor of the State of Missouri, to wit:

When he recruits troops for the Confederate service, he is authorized to impress provisions for his men and forage for their teams, and also the necessary transportation, keeping an accurate account of the amount taken and the disposition made of the same, being careful, in all proceedings, to conform strictly with the provisions of said order.

WALDO P. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fourth Missouri Infantry.

Colonel Hull is authorized to empower as many as 6 persons to impress supplies in compliance with the foregoing order.

WALDO P. JOHNSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fourth Missouri Infantry.

Captain Chambers is authorized to exercise the powers granted in the foregoing order for all troops raised under my orders.

E. B. HULL,
Colonel, on Recruiting Service.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6. HEADQUARTERS, *Oregon County, Mo., March 25, 1864.*

Lieut. A. W. ROBERTS:

You are hereby authorized to collect all the C. S. Army troops you may find in said county, and also to raise all the new recruits you can for Capt. G. W. Evans' company. He will do his utmost to suppress jayhawking wherever he may go, and he will report progress on the 10th of each month.

G. W. EVANS,
Capt., Comdg. C. S. Army Forces in Southern Missouri.

MARCH 19, 1864.—Attack on Laredo, Tex.

*Reports of Col. Santos Benavides, Texas Cavalry.**

HEADQUARTERS LINE OF THE RIO GRANDE,
Laredo, Tex., March 19, 1864—7 p. m.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the town of Laredo has been attacked this afternoon about 3 o'clock by the enemy's forces, consisting of about 200 men (cavalry), Mexicans and Americans, which, I think, is the advance guard of the enemy's forces en route to this place. I have received positive information from my spies down below on the river that the remainder of the enemy's forces are the following: About 300 men (infantry) and two pieces of artillery coming this way, and which will arrive here in about two days. I have resisted these forces here now during this afternoon with my men, which are about 60 men all told. We have done all we could—resisted the enemy until night broke in. The enemy have withdrawn to about half a mile from town, but still keep up their fire with us. You are well aware that their arms have superiority over ours, so we have barricaded the plaza and streets and are anxious to receive re-enforcements. I am entirely in the dark as yet whether the encampment of our forces was attacked or not at the same time, but I hope not. As soon as my men, who are encamped on the Lapata, about 25 miles north of Laredo, arrive here this night, I will try to attack the enemy to-morrow morning. I have also sent a swift express to Captain Giddings, commanding at Eagle Pass, to send me or re-enforce me with all his men he can possibly spare as soon as possible. Should I fail to obtain the necessary re-enforcements before the enemy advances in so strong a force, I will be compelled to evacuate this town and retreat toward Eagle Pass, as it is an impossibility for me to remain here much longer without any re-enforcements and on account of the scarcity of ammunition on hand. I would suggest to you that if you could succeed, to get into the rear of the enemy, touching the river about the Clareño ranch or farther up. I think that if I join with Captain Giddings' command, which numbers about 150 men, I shall be able to hold Eagle Pass until you succeed to get into the enemy's rear. I must state that the reason of

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*See also Ford to Turner, March 31, Part II, p. 1106.

not being notified sooner of the movements of the enemy is that the Yankees have not traveled any road whatsoever, but being guided by some good guides, and were never encountered by my scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SANTOS BENAVIDES,
Colonel, Commanding Line.

Col. John S. Ford,
Comdg. Expeditionary Forces, Camp San Fernando.

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Headquarters Line of the Rio [Grande],
Laredo, Tex., March 21, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report that the town of Laredo was attacked by the enemy on the 19th ultimo, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The news of the advance of the enemy on this town reached me only a short time before they were in view, and but little time was left to make preparations for our defense. I immediately collected my forces, only consisting of about 42 men of Captains Refugio and Cristoval Benavides' companies, and Captain Chapman's company, numbering about 30 men, and also a few American volunteers. All the citizens of this town rallied gallantly for the defense; and erecting barricades in the plaza, after I posted the citizens and Captain Chapman's company for the defense of the interior of the town, I proceeded with 42 men of my command to its outskirts, divided them in squads, and placed them in the adjacent houses to await the approach of the enemy. The Yankees, consisting of about 200 men (Americans and a few Mexicans), all regular soldiers and superiorly armed, halted when about half a mile from town, formed, and charged in squads, each numbering about 40 men. As soon as they came in reach of our guns my men gave the Texas yell, commenced firing on them, and compelled them to retreat to their main force, stationed half a mile from town. The Yankees, dismounting, then advanced on foot, keeping up a rapid fire. My men also maintained a steady fire, when the brave Major Swope and a Mexican named Juan Ivara charged right upon an advancing squad of 40 Yankees and compelled them to retreat. Major Swope stood there until he emptied the last shot of his six-shooter, which compelled him to retire for the purpose of reloading. While doing so his horse was shot three times, and also Juan Ivara's. The enemy advanced again, but were repulsed by the vigorous fire of my gallant men, who were full of fight. None of our men were killed or wounded. I am not positive that any of the enemy have been killed, but my men assert that a good many of the Yanks were wounded, and that traces of blood have been found in various places. The firing was kept up until dark, when the Yankees thought best to skeedaddle in their own peculiar style and give up their intention of walking into Laredo that day. They retreated about dark 3 miles below town and encamped, and our men kept by me in the same position described, expecting every moment a new assault on the town. About 2 o'clock at night my re-enforcements arrived, which were stationed about 25 miles north from Laredo for the purpose of grazing our horses. On the arrival of my re-enforcements a general rejoicing took place among our little force, indicated by the ringing of church bells and blowing of trumpets,

which I presume the Yanks must have heard and rather guessed that I received re-enforcements. Early next morning, Capt. Refugio Benavides, with about 60 well-mounted men, was sent to flank the enemy and get into their rear. He found, on reaching the enemy's camp, that they all had left in a stampede, throwing away some jackets and other things. He found, also, 5 horses branded U. S., which were left behind by the locomotive enemy in their hasty retreat.

Capt. R. Benavides started out again yesterday in pursuit of the enemy, to follow them up and find out all he can concerning them and their movements. To the best of my belief they are retreating towards Rio Grande City, where the other portion of the enemy is stationed, and their strength at Rio G[rande] City is supposed to be 300 men (infantry) and two 12-pounder rifled guns. I think that the enemy will advance next time in a much larger force. They are well aware what my force is through their spies, and will undoubtedly bring a sufficient body next time to attack this place. I have written to Captain Giddings, commanding at Eagle Pass, to re-enforce me with all his available men as soon as possible, and would also suggest to you to send some re-enforcements to me if they can be spared from your command. I will do my best to hold the town as long as possible against any number of foes, but to do so I would beg of you to send me some ammunition, which I am in great need of. My requisition was not all filled at San Antonio last time. Please send me some Mississippi yagers, shotguns, minie rifle, Belgian musket, and navy-size six-shooter cartridges if possible before ten days.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SANTOS BENAVIDES,
Colonel, Commanding Line of Rio Grande.

Col. JOHN S. FORD, or
COMMANDING OFFICER,
At San Antonio, Tex.

MARCH 19-22, 1864.—Scout from Lexington, Mo.

Report of Maj. Alexander W. Mullins, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Lexington, Mo., March 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that at 9 p. m. of the 18th instant, I received the following telegram:

HEADQUARTERS CENTRAL DISTRICT MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, March 18, 1864.

Maj. A. W. MULLINS:

General Rosecrans telegraphs that there are apprehensions of an outbreak in Jackson County to occur about the 20th, and that recruits from Platte County will join it. You will move immediately and concentrate in Jackson west of Greenton Valley, leaving guards at the post you now occupy. I will order part of Captain Eads' company to co-operate with you. Inform the commanders in eastern part of Jackson County of your movements and act in concert with them.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

In obedience to this order, I marched on the 19th instant, with detachments of Companies G and H, to the western part of La Fayette County, immediately west of Greenton Valley, and there joined Captain Burris' command, consisting of detachments of Companies C, F, and I, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. On the 20th, with this command we scouted the country west of Bone Hill and north of the Lexington and Independence road. During the day Captain Burris came upon 2 bushwhackers at their camp, in the midst of an extensive and dense thicket. The captain fired two shots at one of them at a distance of about 40 yards, but both succeeded in making their escape, leaving behind them 2 horses, 3 overcoats, a lot of blankets, quilts, and a quantity of camp equipage and provisions, which fell into Captain Burris' hands. Captain Burris thinks his first shot wounded the bushwhacker he fired at, but did not disable him. On the 21st, Captain Burris with his command scouted the country west and northwest of Pink Hill; I, with detachments of Companies G and H, scouted the Sni Creek country above Pink Hill and to within 6 miles of Lone Jack. On the 22d, I separated from Captain Burris' command and scouted the east branch of Sni Creek, west of Hopewell, and returned to Lexington at 8 p. m. I found it was impracticable to encamp beyond the La Fayette County line in Jackson, for want of forage, and consequently encamped in La Fayette, but near the line. We found quite a number of bushwhackers' old camps, but I saw no indications of there being at present any considerable number of them in that part of the country. One Beall Jeans, formerly a colonel in the Confederate service, is said to be chief among the bushwhackers in Jackson County. I was informed by a man named James McFarland, who resides west of Bone Hill, in Jackson County, that Jeans has been in that vicinity during the past winter, and that he is recruiting for the rebel army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEX. W. MULLINS,
Major, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Col. JAMES MCFERRAN,
Comdg. Third Sub-Dist., District Central Missouri.

MARCH 19–APRIL 4, 1864.—Expedition from Rolling Prairie to Batesville, Ark., with skirmishes.

*Report of Maj. James A. Melton, Second Arkansas Cavalry.**

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 4, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the arrival at these headquarters of the detachment of my command sent to escort the Treasury agent to Batesville, as by your orders of the 14th ultimo. The expedition was not without importance nor dangers, as shown by the report of Captain Orr, who was in command of the detachment. Starting from the camp of the regiment near Rolling Prairie on the 19th ultimo, Captain Orr crossed White River 12 miles from Yellville without hinderance or difficulty. On the 21st, a light skirmish

*See also itinerary, p. 640.

took place at Ten Broeck's Mills, between his advance guard and the enemy, under Colonel Love, who had 1 man wounded, 2 taken prisoners, and retreated toward Craighead County via Salem. The detachment passed unmolested to Batesville 23d ultimo. The men of the detachment were mostly from the neighborhood. Fleeing from their homes at the beginning of the war, they had not seen their families for two years and over. With the consent of Colonel Livingston, 68 of the 104 of the party were granted leave of absence for forty-eight hours. One squad of these men was attacked by some of the enemy at Sulphur Rock, within 8 miles of Batesville, and 2 of the men captured and robbed and then paroled. Upon information of this, Captain Orr, Colonel Livingston assenting, dispatched the 36 remaining men of his command, under Captain Irwin, with Lieutenants Creighton and Garner, on the track of the enemy. They had left Sulphur Rock. Captain Irwin continued pursuit, and swimming White River at Magnus Landing, where the enemy had crossed a few minutes before, overtook them 6 miles beyond, while at a halt. He instantly ordered and gave charge, routed the enemy in twenty minutes, killed 4, wounded 1, captured 2, released 3 U. S. discharged soldiers, carried away by the rebels as prisoners of war, and after driving the enemy to within 3 miles of the rebel General McRae's headquarters, returned to Batesville the same day with the prisoners and captured property, without loss or damage whatever. Mean time the men out on leave had returned, and on the 26th Captain Orr left Batesville. He was apprised that Freeman intended to cut him off before he could reach White River. It was attempted fruitlessly. An entire reconnoitering party of Freeman's but one, who was made prisoner, paid their life for the experiment. From the prisoner it was learned that Freeman had picked 140 men, the best armed and mounted in his command, under one Captain Adams, to intercept Captain Orr at all hazards, engage him, and give no quarters. The rebels, however, after the loss of their scouting party, did not venture to attack him. He crossed White River uninterrupted and arrived safe in camp on the 2d instant via Yellville. In the several encounters with the enemy on that march Captain Orr suffered no loss in men, while of the enemy, 37 killed, 6 prisoners, and 2 wounded, 26 serviceable horses captured, 16 stand of inferior arms left in our hands, 1 U. S. saddle, 3 of our prisoners liberated attest the good conduct of our troops and of the officers at their head.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. MELTON,
Major, Commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry.

General J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

MARCH 20–30, 1864.—Scouts in Jackson and La Fayette Counties, Mo., with skirmishes.

Report of Capt. Milton Burris, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

[WARRENSBURG, MO.,] *March* 31, 1864.

SIR: Captain Burris and 47 men started on scout the 20th; wounded Colonel Jeans, captured 2 horses and some blankets, broke up one guerrilla camp, all in Jackson County; returned same day; trav-

eled 25 miles. Captain Burris and 52 started on scout the 21st; returned same day; traveled 35 miles. March 26, started out two scouts; one, under command of Captain Burris, of 33 men, returned the 27th; traveled 40 miles; one, under command of Sergeant McClanahan, Company C, of 14 men, captured 1 horse, killed 1 horse, captured 4 revolvers, 3 shotguns, and 1 carbine, all in Jackson County; returned 27th; traveled 40 miles. March 29, started out two scouts. One of 20 men, under command of Captain Moore, killed 1 guerrilla (supposed to be Bledsoe), captured 1 horse and 2 revolvers in La Fayette County; returned 30th; traveled 50 miles. One, under command of Captain Jackson, of 27 men, returned the 30th; traveled 50 miles. Aggregate number of miles traveled by the different scouts, 240 miles. Scouting done on horseback and by dismounting one-half the men and sending them through the brush where too thick to ride.

MILTON BURRIS,
Capt. Co. I, First Cav., Mo. State Mil., Comdg. Detach.

Col. JAMES MCFERRAN,
Comdg. First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

MARCH 21, 1864.—Affair at Velasco, Tex.

Report of Capt. W. S. Herndon, C. S. Army, commanaing post.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Velasco, Tex., March 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that about 4.30 o'clock yesterday the blockader, a schooner-rigged propeller, passed up to the eastward some 3 miles from the forts and then came back, just out of the range of our guns, with the wind and sea, and opened fire on the steamship Matagorda, which was still aground. She fired 4 shots from a Parrott gun, all passing over the vessel and exploding some distance to the rear. The enemy then passed to the eastward again, not being able with so much wind and sea to fire going up, and the second time came down within range of both our batteries. The enemy fired 3 shots; one of them, a shell, exploded within a few yards of the Matagorda, one exploded so near Doctor Seeds that he was covered with cinders and smoke, and a solid shot knocked down a horse at the bridge on the bayou. Our guns shot remarkably well, since 6 shots from our batteries came very near, some went over, some, a little short, glanced (ricochetted), and I think struck the vessel, and a 32-pounder shell, thrown from the Velasco side, exploded directly over the vessel of the enemy, which drew the gunners from their guns and the men from off the deck, and the vessel remained in an unmanageable condition for about ten minutes, when she backed out to sea without firing any more. The enemy came to anchor about 3 miles out. There were 7 shots fired by the enemy and 15 shots by our batteries.

To-day is a beautiful day for the enemy to fire at the steam-ship, and certainly will during the day. A three-masted vessel passed here going westward last night. The steamer Matagorda's crew all

abandoned her yesterday evening, but a few went aboard last night to watch and signal the guards on shore. She is about 18 inches in the sand; considerably listed on the larboard side. The captain thinks he can save her; others entertain a different idea, and believe her a wreck. The schooner Emily still on the beach. All her cargo is here, safely housed; the supercargo left for Houston on the Mary Hill.

* * * * * * *

The crew of the Matagorda have gone on board to endeavor to get her off, but it will be a difficult task. Nothing from Bernard this morning. The enemy still at anchor 3 miles out. Nothing further of importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. S. HERNDON,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Col. JOSEPH BATES,
Commanding, &c.

MARCH 22, 1864.—Affair at Corpus Christi, Tex.

Report of Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pass Cavallo, Tex., March 24, 1864.

COLONEL: Major Thomson, commanding Twentieth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, stationed at Aransas Pass, reports, 22d instant, that a wood party from his command, in boats, having put in at Corpus Christi during a severe norther, was attacked there by a band of partisan rangers under Major Nolan. The rebels were repulsed with the loss of 1 killed and 3 wounded. No loss on our side.

Your obedient servant,

JNO. A. McCLERNAND,
Major-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. RICHARD B. IRWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of the Gulf.

MARCH 23–MAY 3, 1864.—The Camden (Arkansas) Expedition.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

Mar. 23, 1864.—Steele's column advances from Little Rock.
23–24, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Benton road.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Rockport.
27–31, 1864.—Expedition from Pine Bluff to Mount Elba and Long View.
27, 1864.—Affair at Branchville.
Skirmish at Brooks' Mill.
28, 1864.—Skirmish at Mount Elba.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at Long View.
Skirmish at Arkadelphia.

Mar. 30, 1864.—Action at Mount Elba and pursuit of Confederates to Big Creek.
31, 1864.—Skirmish near Arkadelphia.
Apr. 1, 1864.—Skirmish at Arkadelphia.
2, 1864.—Skirmishes at Antoine, or Terre Noir Creek, and on Wolf Creek.
2–3, 1864.—Skirmishes at Okolona.
3–4, 1864.—Engagement at Elkin's Ferry, Little Missouri River.
5, 1864.—Skirmish at Marks' Mills.
6, 1864.—Skirmish at the Little Missouri.
9–12, 1864.—Skirmishes on Prairie D'Ane.
13, 1864.—Action at Moscow.
14, 1864.—Skirmish at Dutch Mills.
Skirmish at White Oak Creek.
15, 1864.—Skirmish at Camden.
16, 1864.—Skirmish at Liberty Post-Office.
16–18, 1864.—Skirmishes about Camden.
17, 1864.—Skirmish at Red Mound.
18, 1864.—Engagement at Poison Spring.
20, 1864.—Skirmish near Camden.
23, 1864.—Confederate demonstration on Camden.
Affair at Swan Lake.
24, 1864.—Skirmish near Camden.
25, 1864.—Action at Marks' Mills.
25–26, 1864.—Skirmishes in Moro Bottom.
26, 1864.—Steele's column retreats from Camden.
28, 1864.—Skirmish near Princeton.
29, 1864.—Skirmish at the Ouachita River.
Skirmish near Saline Bottom.
30, 1864.—Engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.
Skirmish at Whitmore's Mill.
May 3, 1864.—Steele's column arrives at Little Rock.

REPORTS, ETC.*

No. 1.—Strength and organization of the expeditionary forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, March 31, 1864.
No. 2.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.
No. 3.—Capt. Junius B. Wheeler, U. S. Corps of Engineers, Chief Engineer.
No. 4.—Capt. Charles A. Henry, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army, Chief Quartermaster.
No. 5.—Brig. Gen. Frederick Salomon, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Seventh Army Corps.
No. 6.—Brig. Gen. Samuel A. Rice, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade.
No. 7.—Lieut. Col. Samuel T. Wells, Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.
No. 8.—Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr., Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.
No. 9.—Maj. Hiram D. Gibson, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, of operations March 23–April 19.
No. 10.—Col. Cyrus H. Mackey, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, of operations April 19–May 3.
No. 11.—Col. Charles E. Salomon, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.

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* See also General E. Kirby Smith's reports, p. 476 *et seq.*

No. 12.—Capt. Martin Voegele, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding battery, of skirmish at Antoine.

No. 13.—Col. William E. McLean, Forty-third Indiana Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations April 2–20.

No. 14.—Maj. Wesley W. Norris, Forty-third Indiana Infantry, of engagement at Elkin's Ferry.

No. 15.—Col. Charles W. Kittredge, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Elkin's Ferry.

No. 16.—Lieut. Col. Francis M. Drake, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, commanding battalion and Second Brigade.

No. 17.—Col. William B. Mason, Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, of operations April 2–3.

No. 18.—Lieut. Charles Peetz, Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

No. 19.—Col. Adolph Engelmann, Forty-third Illinois Infantry, commanding Third Brigade.

No. 20.—Lieut. Col. Adolph Dengler, Forty-third Illinois Infantry.

No. 21.—Col. John A. Garrett, Fortieth Iowa Infantry, of skirmish at Okolona, shirmish at Prairie D'Ane, and engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 22.—Col. Conrad Krez, Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, of skirmish at Okolona.

No. 23.—Itinerary of First Brigade, Frontier Division, for April, 1864.

No. 24.—Col. James M. Williams, First Kansas Colored Infantry, commanding detachment Frontier Division, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 25.—Lieut. Barnett B. Mitchell, Second Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 26.—Lieut. Edward Ross, Second Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 27.—Lieut. Richard L. Phillips, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 28.—Lieut. Anson J. Walker, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 29.—Lieut. Josephus Utt, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 30.—Capt. William M. Duncan, Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 31.—Maj. Richard G. Ward, First Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 32.—Lieut. William C. Gibbons, First Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 33.—Lieut. William W. Haines, Second Indiana Battery, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 34.—Col. Samuel J. Crawford, Second Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 35.—Lieut. Col. William T. Campbell, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

No. 36.—Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

No. 37.—Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of skirmishes March 23–24.

No. 38.—Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Caldwell, First Iowa Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade, of skirmishes April 2–4.

No. 39.—Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, commanding at Pine Bluff, of expedition to Mount Elba and Long View, &c.

No. 40.—Surg. Isaac Casselberry, First Indiana Cavalry, of Confederate losses at Mount Elba, &c.

No. 41.—Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Marks, Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, of expedition to Mount Elba.

No. 42.—Capt. Lyndsey J. Smith, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, of action at Mount Elba.

No. 43.—Lieut. Col. Edmund B. Gray, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, of expedition to Mount Elba and operations October 26, 1863–May 13, 1864.

No. 44.—Lieuts. Grover Young, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and Frank M. Greathouse, First Indiana Cavalry, of expedition to Long View.

No. 45.—Lieut. Col. Wilton A. Jenkins, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, of action at Mount Elba, &c.

No. 46.—Capt. Benjamin T. Humphrey, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, of action at Mount Elba.

No. 47.—Capt. William F. Creitz, Fifth Kansas Battery (improvised), of expedition to Mount Elba.

No. 48.—Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army, commanding District of Arkansas.

No. 49.—Organization of the Confederate forces in Arkansas, General E. Kirby Smith commanding, April 20, 1864.

No. 50.—Returns of Casualties (incomplete).

No. 51.—Brig. Gen. James F. Fagan, C. S. Army, commanding division, of action at Marks' Mills.

No. 52.—Brig. Gen. William L. Cabell, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring and action at Marks' Mills.

No. 53.—Col. James C. Monroe, First Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

No. 54.—Col. T. J. Morgan, Second Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

No. 55.—Col. A. Gordon, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

No. 56.—Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Gunter, Arkansas Battalion, of action at Marks' Mills.

No. 57.—Col. William A. Crawford, Arkansas Cavalry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 58.—Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 59.—Brig. Gen. James C. Tappan, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 60.—Lieut. Col. W. R. Hardy, Twenty-fourth Arkansas Infantry, commanding Nineteenth (Dawson's) and Twenty-fourth Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 61.—Lieut. Col. Thomas D. Thomson, Thirty-third Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 62.—Col. R. G. Shaver, Thirty-eighth Arkansas Infantry, commanding Twenty-seventh and Thirty-eighth Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 63.—Col. Lucien C. Gause, Thirty-second Arkansas Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 64.—Lieut. Col. H. G. P. Williams, Nineteenth (Dockery's) Arkansas Infantry, Dockery's brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 65.—Brig. Gen. Mosby M. Parsons, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 66.—Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr., commanding First Brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 67.—Lieut. John O. Lockhart, Ruffner's Missouri Battery, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 68.—Col. Simon P. Burns, Eleventh Missouri Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 69.—Capt. A. A. Lesueur, Missouri Battery, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 70.—Brig. Gen. Thomas N. Waul, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, Walker's division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

No. 71.—Brig. Gen. John S. Marmaduke, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

No. 72.—Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry, commanding Marmaduke's cavalry brigade.

No. 73.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry brigade.

No. 74.—Lieut. Col. Benjamin Elliott, First Missouri Cavalry Battalion, of skirmishes near Princeton and at Whitmore's Mill, &c.

No. 75.—Brig. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 76.—Col. Charles De Morse, Twenty-ninth Texas Cavalry, commanding Gano's brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 77.—Col. Tandy Walker, commanding Second Indian Brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

No. 78.—Confederate Roll of Honor.

No. 1.

Strength and organization of the expeditionary forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, March 31, 1864.

STRENGTH.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General headquarters:					
Staff*	17	.....	17	18	.....
Escort	2	88	100	169	.....
Total	19	88	117	187	.....
Third Division, Seventh Army Corps	193	4,657	5,127	8,411	16
Frontier Division:†					
Infantry	115	2,893	3,864	4,979	10
Cavalry	40	913	1,218	2,934	4
Total	155	3,806	5,082	7,913	14
Cavalry Division‡	77	2,611	3,428	4,421	.....
Grand total	444	11,162	13,754	20,942	30
Garrison of Pine Bluff:§					
Cavalry brigade	42	885	1,322	1,900	11
Infantry	21	688	1,113	1,705	.....
Total at Pine Bluff	63	1,573	2,435	3,605	11

*Both in the field and at Little Rock; return does not indicate actual stations.

†From return for April 20; not accounted for on March return.

‡Headquarters and First and Third Brigades.

§The relation of these troops to the expedition is shown in reports of Clayton and his subordinates.

ORGANIZATION.

HEADQUARTERS.

3d Illinois Cavalry, Company D, Lieut. Solomon M. Tabor.
15th Illinois Cavalry, Company H, Capt. Thomas J. Beebe.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. FREDERICK SALOMON.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL A. RICE.

50th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Samuel T. Wells.
29th Iowa, Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr.
33d Iowa, Maj. Hiram D. Gibson.
9th Wisconsin, Col. Charles E. Salomon.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM E. MCLEAN.

43d Indiana, Maj. Wesley W. Norris.
36th Iowa, Col. Charles W. Kittredge.
77th Ohio, Col. Wlliam B. Mason.

Third Brigade.

Col. ADOLPH ENGELMANN.

43d Illinois, Lieut. Col. Adolph Dengler.
40th Iowa, Col. John A. Garrett.
27th Wisconsin, Col. Conrad Krez.

Artillery.

Capt. GUSTAVE STANGE.

2d Missouri Light, Battery E, Lieut. Charles Peetz.
Vaughn's (Illinois) Battery, Lieut. Charles W. Thomas.
Wisconsin Battery,* Capt. Martin Voegele.

FRONTIER DIVISION.†

Brig. Gen. JOHN M. THAYER.

First Brigade.

Col. JOHN EDWARDS.

1st Arkansas, Lieut. Col. Elhanon J. Searle.
2d Arkansas (eight companies), Maj. Marshall L. Stephenson.
18th Iowa, Capt. William M. Duncan.
2d Indiana Battery, Lieut. Hugh Espey.

Second Brigade.

Col. CHARLES W. ADAMS.

1st Kansas (colored), Col. James M. Williams.
2d Kansas (colored), Col. Samuel J. Crawford.
12th Kansas, Lieut. Col. Josiah E. Hayes.
1st Arkansas Battery, Capt. Denton D. Stark.

Third (or Cavalry) Brigade.

Lieut. Col. OWEN A. BASSETT.

2d Kansas Cavalry, Maj. Julius G. Fisk.
6th Kansas Cavalry, Lieut. Col. William T. Campbell.
14th Kansas Cavalry, Lieut. Col. John G. Brown.

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*Manned by Company F, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry.
† Organized March 21, 1864, for the expedition.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EUGENE A. CARR.

First Brigade.

Col. JOHN F. RITTER.

3d Arkansas (four companies), Maj. George F. Lovejoy.
13th Illinois, Company B, Capt. Adolph Bechand.
3d Iowa (detachment), Lieut. Franz W. Arnim.
1st Missouri (eight companies), Capt. Miles Kehoe,
2d Missouri, Capt. William H. Higdon.

Third Brigade.

Col. DANIEL ANDERSON.

10th Illinois, Lieut. Col. James Stuart.
1st Iowa, Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Caldwell.
3d Missouri, Maj. John A. Lennon.

POST OF PINE BLUFF.*

Col. POWELL CLAYTON.

18th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Marks.
1st Indiana Cavalry (eight companies), Maj. Julian D. Owen.
5th Kansas Cavalry (ten companies), Lieut. Col. Wilton A. Jenkins.
7th Missouri Cavalry, Maj. Henry P. Spellman.
28th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Edmund B. Gray.

No. 2.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Camp 20 miles from Arkadelphia, Ark., March 27, 1864.
(Received April 6.)

GENERAL: Yours of the 20th instant is received. I moved as soon as possible. General Banks sent me a dispatch informing me that his movement had been delayed by rain and bad roads. General Thayer telegraphed me that the troops at Fort Smith could not be ready before the 21st instant. On that day he started. He is to join me at Arkadelphia. I shall be through before him. I expect to hear from Banks in a day or two. I am probably ahead of him.

It is officially reported that a large force of the enemy is fortifying at Monticello. More than half of my cavalry are dismounted, and most of the rest very poorly mounted. Artillery horses and transportation in the same condition. This department is the last to be served, my troops scattered all over Arkansas, and still I am expected to move on short notice. We have had to haul most of our forage 30 and 40 miles for months. Still I am confident of being able to do my share of the work before me.

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Louisville, Ky.

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*Operating in connection with Steele's column.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *April* 1, 1864.
(Received 10 a. m., 6th.)

The following telegram is just received:

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *March* 31, 1864.

The expedition to Mount Elba and Long View has just returned. We destroyed the pontoon bridge at Long View, burned a train of 35 wagons loaded with camp and garrison equipments, ammunition, quartermaster's stores, &c.; captured 320 prisoners. Engaged in battle at Mount Elba yesterday morning General Dockery's division, of about 1,200 men, from Monticello. Routed him, and pursued him 10 miles, with a loss on his side of over 100 killed and wounded. Captured a large quantity of small-arms, 2 stands of colors, many wagons, and over 300 horses and mules. Our loss will not exceed 15 in killed, wounded, and missing. We brought in several hundred contrabands. The expedition was a complete success, details of which will be furnished in my official report, which will be forwarded in a few days.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Nothing from General Steele since the 28th ultimo, when he was on the march about 20 miles from Arkadelphia.

Respectfully,

W. D. GREEN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, April 10, 1864. (Received 15th.)

GENERAL: The following is just received from General Steele, dated—

FIVE MILES SOUTH OF LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER CROSSING,
At Elkin's Ferry, April 7.

Reached here on the 5th, and am waiting for General Thayer to come up. He will probably join me to-morrow night. Leaving here, I shall proceed directly to Camden with my whole force. Supplies are limited, and must be renewed before proceeding farther. Had slight skirmishing in the advance; not enough to stop us. On the 2d, Shelby attacked my rear guard, General Rice's brigade, with 1,200 cavalry and two pieces of artillery. He was repulsed with a loss of 100 killed and wounded. Our loss, 44 killed and wounded and 15 prisoners. On the 4th, Marmaduke attacked with 3,000 to 4,000 cavalry and five pieces of artillery, on the south side of the Little Missouri River, and after five hours' fighting was routed and fled. Our loss, 23 wounded. Marmaduke, with his whole force, including Shelby, Cabell, Lawther, Greene, &c., are in the Prairie D'Ane, 6 miles from us, but will run as we move. Hear nothing from Banks or the gun-boats since the taking of Alexandria. In my opinion Banks has force enough to march over them, fortifications and all.

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Respectfully,

W. D. GREEN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Nashville, Tenn.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
In the Field, Camden, April 17, 1864.
(Received 9.06 p. m., 25th.)

GENERAL: The troops from Fort Smith were to have joined me at Arkadelphia. On the 1st instant Thayer changed his route, and all my messengers failed to communicate with him until the 5th, at Rockport. I had crossed the Little Missouri at Elkin's Ferry, and was on high ground, having found the other roads to Camden impassable. A heavy rain fell, raising the Little Missouri so that it could not be forded, and rendered it necessary to corduroy about 5 miles of bottom and lay the pontoon bridges to get Thayer across. He delayed us eight days, which he explains. We were bushwhacked, and attacked in front, rear, and flank by Price's cavalry and twelve pieces of artillery. At the Little Missouri they had a line of breastworks crowning the hills, where the bottom terminates, over a mile in extent. After a severe skirmish they fell back to Prairie D'Ane, where another severe skirmish took place. The rebels were always repulsed with considerable loss on our part and with greater on theirs. The rebels fell back across the prairie to a line of rifle-pits and epaulements for guns en barbette along a skirt of timber, commanding the Washington and Camden road and the approach on the prairie for one-half a mile across. This part of the prairie and the works were hid from our view by a belt of timber along a creek. We developed their position by skirmishes, and turned their left flank, and would have had an enfilading fire, but Price, who commanded in person, withdrew his forces and retreated toward Washington. We pursued a few miles, and then turned toward Camden. Our supplies were nearly exhausted, and so was the country. We were obliged to forage from 5 to 15 miles on either side of the road to keep our stock alive. My spies sent to Banks did not return. Those he promised to send did not reach me. Everybody said Banks had been repulsed below Natchitoches, and had fallen back. Telegraphic dispatches have been received at this place to the same effect. One of my spies sent to Banks has come in, and confirms the report. He says he went to within 30 miles of Alexandria. The rebels had endeavored to destroy all produce that they could not consume or carry away for considerable distance around this place. When they found we had turned this way they tried to beat us here. Marmaduke got in our front and Dockery in our rear, by the middle and north roads, and endeavored to hold us until Price could get into the fortifications by the south road with his infantry and artillery, having evacuated Camden under the supposition that we were marching on Shreveport, by the way of Washington. We marched 23 miles the last day into Camden, driving Marmaduke before us from position to position. Cooper and Maxey have come from the Indian Territory, and Price is now concentrating at Woodlawn. An immense amount of labor has been expended in fortifying Camden and cutting away forests. There are nine forts on eminences, and they seem to be well located. Strategically and commercially, I regard this as the first town in Arkansas. The Washita is navigable always for several months in the year to this place, and sometimes to Arkadelphia. At present there is 24 feet in the channel. We captured a large steamer (the Homer) 30 miles below here, which [the enemy] left on our approach. With a gun-boat as convoy we can get supplies up this river. I expect supplies soon from Pine Bluff,

and will move to Red River as soon as possible, but consider it all-important to hold this place. Red River is less to be depended upon for purposes of navigation than the Arkansas. I am not apprised that there will be any supplies for my command on the Red River, and would therefore request that supplies be sent up the Washita River as soon as possible, to save land transportation from Little Rock and Pine Bluff.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 26, 1864.

I am informed in telegraph office, War Department, that a copy of this telegram was sent to Lieutenant-General Grant last evening.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
Aide-de-Camp.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
In the Field, Camden, Ark., April 18, 1864.
(Received 5.25 p. m., 25th.)

GENERAL: Since sending my dispatch of yesterday one of my messengers has returned from Red River. He left General Banks on the 13th instant, but brought no written communication. He says General Banks directed him to say that he fought the enemy on the 8th and 9th April, at or near Pleasant Hill, about 30 miles above Natchitoches, and defeated him, but was compelled to fall back to Grand Ecore for supplies. This place is about 75 miles above Alexandria. He further says that a staff officer of General Lee informed him that in the first day's fight the enemy took 22 pieces of artillery and all of General Lee's train, but that next day the artillery was recaptured, except 8 pieces. He also says Red River is very low and that some of the gun-boats are reported aground, unable to move either way.

Very respectfully,

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Lieutenant-General Grant and Major-General Sherman, April 25.)

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
Camden, Ark., April 22, 1864.

GENERAL: We arrived here on the 15th instant, having been delayed about ten days by bad roads and the failure of the command from Fort Smith to join us according to agreement. We have been bushwhacked, attacked in front and rear and flank, and have driven

Price out of two defensive works, each about 1¾ miles in extent. The rebels gained no success until since we arrived here they captured a forage train. There seems to be no doubt that Banks has fallen back to Alexandria. If he gives up the expedition Smith will send a large force against me, and endeavor to recapture this place, which virtually gives us command of the Ouachita. Price is in front of us at present. He commanded in person at Prairie D'Ane. Kirby Smith has promised to send him re-enforcements, and it is reported that they will soon be here. Several of my regiments have enlisted as veterans, and must be furloughed or go out of service on account of breach of contract. To prevent this I have just ordered the veterans of the First Iowa Cavalry home. Two of my veteran regiments have been seized and ordered elsewhere. I hope that due consideration will be given to this department. It appears to me bad policy to give the rebels an opportunity of re-establishing themselve firmly in their Trans-Mississippi Department after they have been nearly beaten out of it. I cannot understand why Banks fell back, if he started from Alexandria prepared to go to Shreveport. If one of my emissaries had not returned I should have known nothing of his movements except from report. Although I believe we can beat Price, I do not expect to meet successfully the whole force which Kirby Smith could send against me, if Banks should let him go. This is a strong place. The rebels have fortified it for us, but until we can get the assistance of the gun-boats on the Ouachita the Arkansas must be our base of supplies. The rebels have a large cavalry force, and it is not safe to send a train without a large escort. One was captured the other day escorted by 1,300 men, two James guns, and two mountain howitzers. It is useless to talk of obtaining supplies in this country for my command. The country is wellnigh exhausted, and the people are threatened with starvation. A bearer of dispatches from General Banks has just arrived. I suppose dispatches of a similar import have been sent you. It is reported that 8,000 infantry joined Price yesterday from Shreveport. Price was undoubtedly re-enforced, to what extent I do not know. They are just opening with artillery upon my outposts.

I will write you soon.

Very truly yours,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

P. S.—Banks was at Grand Ecore when the bearer of dispatches left him, having fallen back 30 miles from Pleasant Hill, where the battle was fought.

F. S.

LITTLE ROCK, *May* 4, 1864.

P. S.—This letter was sent by a bearer of dispatches who did not get through. Another dispatch was sent to you, and one addressed to General Halleck, which failed also.

Very respectfully,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Mississippi.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &c.,
Little Rock, Ark., April 28, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of telegrams from Col. Powell Clayton, commanding at Pine Bluff, relative to the capture of train and escort en route to Pine Bluff for supplies for the army under General Steele at Camden; also copy of telegram of this date to Major-General Sherman. Permit me to ask for General Steele, in his absence, that at least 3,000 cavalry or 3,000 cavalry horses be sent to this department immediately, as there are here now more than that number who are dismounted.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

PINE BLUFF, *April* 25, 1864.

Three men have just come in from the train from Camden. They report the same as having [been] attacked at 10 o'clock this morning, 9 miles beyond the Saline. The enemy is supposed to be Shelby and Cabell. A portion of the train was captured when they left, and the fight still going on. One of the men is a wagon-master, one a soldier, and the other a messenger. I will telegraph upon further information.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Major GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

PINE BLUFF, *April* 25, 1864.
(Received 26th.)

Captain Magill, of Colonel McLean's staff, has just come in; he left the scene of our disaster to-day at 11 o'clock p. m. At that time our force, acting as escort for the train, was surrounded and over a hundred of the wagons in the hands of the enemy. The rebel forces were under Shelby and Fagan, and at least 5,000 strong. He thinks the entire train and artillery is captured, and the escort, consisting of Colonel McLean's brigade, are probably captured. Also I received an order from General Steele yesterday morning to send what force I could spare to communicate and co-operate with the train. I accordingly sent out the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry and all of the cavalry at my disposal. The cavalry arrived in time to take part in the engagement. The infantry are at Mount Elba; I will recall them at once. Captain Magill reports the loss upon both sides up to the time he left as being very heavy. Had I not better send out a flag of truce to take care of our wounded and bury our dead?

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

PINE BLUFF, *April* 26, 1864.

The attack upon our train yesterday at Marks' Mills resulted in its entire capture. We have lost 240 wagons, 5 pieces of artillery, and without doubt almost the entire escort. The fight was very severe, and lasted about three hours. The escort consisted of Colonel McLean's brigade, and between 300 and 400 cavalry, altogether about 1,500 men; they were crushed by overwhelming numbers of the enemy, A portion of the cavalry and a few mounted officers succeeded in cutting their way through after everything was lost.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

PINE BLUFF, *April* 27, 1864.

About 190 of the cavalry train escort have come in; 180 enlisted men and 6 commissioned officers are still missing. I think a portion of the missing made their way to Camden. About 90 infantrymen have come in. One of General Steele's escort came in this morning; he said he staid the night before with Shelby, and says that Shelby claims to have 1,200 prisoners. He stated also that a portion of the enemy's command went toward the Washita River with the prisoners and captured property, and that the balance under Shelby went toward Charning's Ferry, on the Saline. I sent a flag of truce out yesterday morning, but don't expect them to return before to-morrow night.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
Little Rock, Ark., April 28, 1864.

A train of 240 wagons, with an escort of about 1,600 infantry, 400 cavalry, and 5 pieces of artillery, was attacked at Marks' Mills, 8 miles beyond the Saline River, on the Camden and Pine Bluff road, at 10 o'clock on the 25th instant, and after a desperate fight of three hours, the train, with all the artillery and the greater portion of the infantry and cavalry, was captured. About 300 men escaped and have made their way to Pine Bluff and Little Rock. The enemy's force consisted of Shelby's and Fagan's commands, of about 5,000 men—cavalry and mounted infantry and two batteries of artillery. I was informed by Captain Dunham, of General Banks' staff, and bearer of dispatches from General Steele to General Banks, that a very large train was captured by Marmaduke on the 18th instant, on the Washington road, some few miles out of Camden. This, if true, leaves General Steele with only about 150 wagons to supply his army. The chief quartermaster has sent an agent to Memphis and Saint Louis for wagons and mules. Will you please order, say, 2,000 mules and

200 wagons sent to this department at once? A special messenger bears this dispatch to Cairo, and will proceed to Nashville with a more detailed report of matters in this department. Communication between Little Rock and Saint Louis by telegraph has been cut off for three weeks.

Respectfully,

W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Comdg. Mil. Div. of the Miss., Nashville, Tenn.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &c.,
Little Rock, Ark., April 28, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies* of telegrams from Col. Powell Clayton, commanding at Pine Bluff, relative to the loss of a train and escort en route from Camden to Pine Bluff for supplies.

In addition to the information contained therein, I am informed by Captain Dunham, aide-de-camp, who left Camden on the 24th instant with dispatches from General Steele to General Banks, that a large forage train, sent out by General Steele from Camden on the 18th instant, was captured by Marmaduke's forces, along with most of the escort, supposed to have consisted of about 800 infantry and cavalry and 2 pieces of artillery. This, if true, and there can be but little doubt of it, leaves General Steele in a very critical situation with reference to supplies. From the best information we can get here, he has only enough subsistence to last him to the 1st day of May.

A train of 120 wagons left Pine Bluff for Camden to-day, loaded with scant five days' rations for his command, and comprises all the land transportation in the department, and to make it up every horse and mule to be found was pressed into the service by General Steele's orders.

General West, in command of the troops in the absence of General Steele, is of the opinion that our forces will be compelled to fall back for want of supplies, but is doing everything in his power to forward them, and has sent as escort to the train from Pine Bluff all the troops that can be spared from the line of the Arkansas, about 3,000 men, mixed infantry and cavalry, and two batteries of artillery, the whole commanded by General Andrews. Permit me to renew the request made by telegram of this date, to have mules and wagons sent to this department immediately; also to ask for General Steele, in his absence, that at least 3,000 cavalry, or the same number of cavalry horses, be sent as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Commanding, &c., Nashville, Tenn.

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* See Clayton's dispatches, forwarded to Halleck, pp. 664, 665.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &c.,
Little Rock, Ark., May 1, 1864.

GENERAL: The following just received:

Brigadier-General WEST:

The escort commanded by Captain Toppass, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, which I sent to General Steele yesterday morning, has returned, having marched 65 miles in nine and one-half hours. General Steele evacuated Camden on Tuesday, the 26th of April; arrived on the Saline at Jenkins' Ferry Friday, the 29th, at 1 p. m., and yesterday, Saturday morning, was attacked by the combined forces of Kirby Smith and Price on the south side of the Saline. After fighting five hours, he drove them from the field, captured 3 pieces of artillery and some prisoners. He then crossed the Saline without obstruction. Our loss is estimated at 500 in killed, wounded, and missing; the enemy's at 1,000. Our wounded were brought across the river. General Rice was severely wounded. It was evident the enemy attacked General Steele with a superior force. Our troops fought most gallantly. Particular praise is given to Kansas colored troops for their stubborn valor. General Steele's army is in excellent spirits.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General.

General Carr, with 2,200 cavalry, came into Little Rock at 9 o'clock this morning, He left the Saline at 5 p. m., the 29th ultimo. Thirty thousand rations have been sent from Pine Bluff to General Steele. Troops are being concentrated at Little Rock to meet an attack.

Very respectfully,

W. D. GREEN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. Gen. W. T. SHERMAN,
Nashville, Tenn.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, May 4, 1864.

GENERAL: I sent you dispatches from Camden on the 18th ultimo, giving an account of the operations of my command up to that date. Some of my dispatches of subsequent date did not get through. I shall send Colonel Manter, chief of my staff, as bearer of dispatches. He is well acquainted with everything relating to this department, and will be able to give any information on the subject which may be required; and any suggestions, aside from written instructions, which it may be thought advisable to send me, would be faithfully delivered to me.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, May 4, 1864.

GENERAL: On my arrival at this place night before last I learned that my dispatches from Camden up to the 18th ultimo had been forwarded to you, and also dispatches from Colonel Clayton and General Andrews giving imperfect accounts of subsequent events.

I shall defer my detailed report of the campaign until reports and returns of casualties can be obtained from subordinate commanders, giving in this only a synopsis of the operations since the 18th ultimo. The command had been on short rations during the whole campaign, except when occasionally supplies could be obtained in the country. On the 20th ultimo we received a supply from Pine Bluff, with ten days' half rations for the command. Some meat was obtained on the east side of the Ouachita, and one small grist-mill and ten hand-mills were constantly kept at work grinding corn, for which the country for a great distance from Camden on both sides of the river was scoured. Four thousand or 5,000 bushels were captured on the steamer Homer. The rebels destroyed all the good mills and all the corn in the neighborhood of Camden. On the 22d ultimo the supply train was sent back under escort of a brigade of infantry (about 1,600 men), 400 cavalry, and four pieces of artillery. Captain Dunham, bearer of dispatches from General Banks, arrived, confirming the report which I had previously received that Banks had fallen back behind intrenchments at Grand Ecore. I also received information that Price had been re-enforced by 8,000 infantry from Shreveport. In the evening of this day he opened with artillery upon my outposts. Captain Dunham returned with dispatches to General Banks, informing him of my inability to advance on account of a want of supplies and the superior rebel force in front of me. He had sent me a request to move forward at once and join him on Red River. On the night of the 25th, we learned that the train, the artillery, and most of the infantry of the escort had been captured by a force under Fagan, said to be 5,000 or 6,000 strong. This force must have crossed the Ouachita 50 or 60 miles below Camden, as my cavalry scouting parties and spies reported the country all clear between the Moro and Washita, and that no crossing of the river by rebels could be heard of. The rebels came up between the Moro and Saline and attacked the train about 8 miles from the crossing on the latter in the Moro Swamp. Our troops fought gallantly, but were overwhelmed by a dash of the rebels. Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, their gallant commander, was severely wounded and taken prisoner. About 500 veterans of the First Iowa Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell, going on furlough, were a few miles in rear of the train when it was attacked. On hearing the firing they pressed forward, but were met by a superior force and fighting fell back. I sent all of my available cavalry to their support. They returned to Camden, having lost 1 lieutenant captured and a few men wounded. They captured a rebel captain and killed a colonel, who led the attack upon them.

We received information through prisoners, deserters, and spies that Kirby Smith had come up with re-enforcements from Shreveport, and was present at the cannonading on our outposts on the 22d. If we had been supplied at Camden I could have held the place against Kirby Smith's entire force, but on learning that my communications were effectually interrupted, and that the line of the Arkansas was threatened by so large a force of the enemy, I decided to fall back at once. The ammunition and baggage trains were put across the river on the pontoon bridge, and at nightfall on the 26th the troops commenced to cross, the pickets being kept in position until everything was over, when they were quietly withdrawn and the pontoon bridge taken up without any suspicion on the part of the enemy that the movement had commenced. To avoid the bad

roads through the Moro Swamp on the Mount Elba road, the march was directed toward Jenkins' Ferry, via Princeton. Fagan, with a considerable force, crossed our road a few hours in advance of us, moving toward Benton, where it was said he was going to cross the Saline for the purpose of threatening Little Rock.

Our advance reached the Saline at Jenkins' Ferry at 2 p. m. 29th. It rained very heavily. The pontoon was laid, and the cavalry commenced crossing immediately. The stream was high and was continually rising from the rain which continued to fall. From the same cause the bottom, being cut up by our artillery and baggage trains, was becoming almost impassable and required corduroying. Before the rear of the column got into the bottom it was attacked by infantry and artillery. No damage was done us ; the rebels were kept off by our skirmishers. The infantry bivouacked in the bottom, while the trains and artillery were being crossed all night.

At daylight on the morning of the 30th, the enemy commenced skirmishing with our pickets. I suppose it was Fagan's command, which had returned on our rear. The firing did not become very heavy for several hours. I directed General Carr, with nearly all the effective cavalry force, to move as rapidly as possible by the shortest route to Little Rock to intercept any rebel force that might be moving in that direction. The Saline bottom is 2 miles wide on each side of the river along the Jenkins' Ferry road. The rain continued and many of the wagons became irretrievably stuck in the mud on the east side of the river. Some of the animals, from exhaustion and want of forage, were unable to make their way through the miry places without the harness, consequently a good deal of baggage and some of the wagons had to be destroyed and teams doubled on the ammunition train. The trains and artillery were parked on the high grounds, 2½ miles from the bridge, as they arrived. They were guarded at first only by about 1,500 dismounted and ineffective cavalry. As we did not know where the enemy might strike us, it was thought prudent to order forward two regiments of infantry to their support. While the crossing was going on General Salomon was left with his division, consisting of the brigades of General Rice and Colonel Engelmann, supported by General Thayer's division of the Army of the Frontier, except two regiments that had been sent to the front to cover our rear and prevent the enemy from interrupting the crossing. The fire of the enemy became heavy, and Salomon formed his line of battle in a good position for defense, the right resting perpendicularly on an impassable bayou, and the left, which was protected by a wooded swamp against anything except, perhaps, skirmishers, was thrown back. The reserve was so posted that any part of the line which might be pressed could be promptly re-enforced. About 9 a. m. the enemy made a desperate assault in heavy force upon our line, but were handsomely repulsed, our troops having the advantage in cover as well as position. General Salomon asked for more troops, and expressed some doubts of being able to hold his position without them. I ordered up two regiments of infantry that had been sent to the front, and instructed him to hold his position at all hazards. This effort was renewed with redoubled energy, but they were again repulsed and driven back with great slaughter.

At 10.30 a. m. another assault was made along the whole line and the rebels repulsed and driven off the field, our troops charging them as they fell back. The Second Kansas (colored) took 2 guns and

the Twenty-ninth Iowa 1, under the immediate direction of General Rice. A number of prisoners were captured, officers and privates, all of whom concurred in saying that Kirby Smith and Price were both present, and that they had nine brigades of infantry. Smith did not know that we had evacuated Camden until noon next day, when he immediately gave orders for the pursuit. His troops were crossed on a raft constructed of logs with planks nailed across them, at the very spot where our pontoon bridge lay. The artillery was crossed in a flat-boat. They marched without baggage, with five days' rations in haversacks, and expected to capture our entire command. They did not capture a man except those whom I thought it necessary should be left on the battle-field. This necessity I regretted, but thought it of more vital importance to secure the safe passage of my command across the Saline than to attempt to bring off wounded men for whom I did not have proper transportation. More were brought off than we could have carried away had they been as severely wounded as those who were left behind. Some of our troops pursued the retreating rebels a mile, and even over the whole field. They say the enemy's loss was five to one compared with ours. I cannot now give a correct estimate of the loss on either side, but will endeavor to do so in my detailed report. The number of our troops engaged did not exceed 4,000. I have no means of estimating that of the enemy, but it was at least three times this number, with artillery. All our artillery had been sent across the river early in the day except one section, and even that was withdrawn to get it out of the mud. At the time the enemy was routed, all of our trains and artillery had just completed the passage of the river.

The enemy having disappeared from the field our troops were withdrawn and passed over the bridge without interruption from the enemy. The bridge was kept two hours to pass over our wounded men and stragglers. It was nearly worn out (India-rubber floats), having been in use over two years; some parts of it were 2 feet under water and I ordered it to be destroyed. We had no transportation for it, the mules were exhausted, the wagons were destroyed. It had done good service; without it my whole command would in all probability have been lost. General Halleck sent it to me two years ago last March, to operate on Current and Black Rivers. One surgeon and two assistant surgeons, with sufficient number of hospital attendants, were left to attend the wounded. Hospital supplies were also left. The rebels did not attempt to follow us. The rain continued until late in the evening and the road toward Little Rock had become almost impassable for trains and artillery. I ordered the worst of the wagons and the least valuable baggage to be destroyed, and the best teams to be put to the artillery and the remaining wagons. The ambulances and wagons carrying the sick and wounded and all the refugees were started toward Pine Bluff, that being the nearest route to the Arkansas and the one least liable to interruption from the enemy. The command and the trains were started toward Little Rock, in order to frustrate the designs which the enemy was supposed to have on that place. Owing to the state of the roads, for the first 5 miles progress was very slow, and it became necessary to destroy a few more wagons which could not be got along. We moved on as rapidly as possible and reached this place on the 2d instant, without having seen the enemy after they retired from the battle-field near Jenkins' Ferry. It was reported, however, that Fagan crossed some artillery and part of his troops at Benton for

the purpose of threatening Little Rock. If this were true they retired on learning that we were marching on the same point. Our troops behaved in all the engagements of this campaign in the most gallant manner. I have never seen troops in whom I had more confidence on the battle-field, and I regret exceedingly the necessities which have caused me to lose so many brave men in detail, while I firmly believe that while together they could not have been routed on a fair field by the superior force which Kirby Smith could have brought against them. The conduct of the colored troops of my command proves that the African can be made as formidable in battle as a soldier of any other color.

I wish to recommend to the favorable consideration of the Government, for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field, Brig. Gen. F. Salomon, commanding division; Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice, commanding brigade. These are both officers of superior merit. General Rice has been twice wounded during recent campaign. At Jenkins' Ferry he received a wound which will cause the loss of his right foot. His self-possession, good judgment, energy, and faculty for managing men in the camp as well as in the field entitles him to distinguished honor. He was wounded in a charge upon the enemy's battery, after which his brigade fell to the command of Col. C. E. Salomon, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, who managed it with skill. Brig. Gen. J. M. Thayer, although commanding the reserve, was frequently under fire and deserves special mention. Colonel Engelmann, Forty-third Illinois, commanded a brigade of Salomon's division.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff.

ADDENDA.

*Memorandum.**

General Salomon says :

My opinion is we must fall back to the line of the Arkansas, and that the movement should commence at once. To go out and fight the enemy would only cripple us, and if supplies are exhausted we have no means to get more.

General Carr says :

I concur with General. Kirby Smith has evidently no further fear of General Banks, and throws his strength against us. He can pass to our rear and cut us off.

General Rice says :

I am in favor of going to Hampton, leaving this place and endeavoring to destroy the enemy's means of crossing Washita, and then if needful go toward the Arkansas.

General Thayer says :

I am in favor of falling back to the line of the Arkansas, and commencing the movement at least by to-morrow night. The line for supplies is too long, and we evidently cannot keep it up.

* Found among the files of the Department of Arkansas, without date.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
No. 23. { *Little Rock, Ark., May* 9, 1864.

To you, the troops of the Seventh Army Corps, who participated in the recent campaign designed to co-operate with General Banks' movement against Shreveport, the major-general commanding tenders his earnest and grateful thanks. Although you were compelled to fall back without seeing the main object of the expedition accomplished, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have beaten the enemy wherever he has met you in force, and extricated yourselves from the perilous position in which you were placed by the reverses of the co-operating column. This let loose upon you a superior force of the enemy, under one of their best generals, causing the loss of your trains, a total interruption of your communications, and rendering it impossible for you to obtain supplies. You have fallen back over rivers and swamps while pressed by a superior force of the enemy, and this you have done successfully, punishing the enemy severely at the same time. The patience with which you have endured hardships and privations, and your heroic conduct on the battle-field, have been brought to the notice of the Government, and will furnish a page in the history of this war of which you may well be proud.

F. STEELE,
Major-General, Commanding.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. Junius B. Wheeler, U. S. Corps of Engineers, Chief Engineer.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *May* 5, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with paragraph 490, Revised Regulations (1863), and by request of Major-General Steele, commanding the Department of Arkansas, I have the honor to submit the following report: In obedience to orders of Maj. Gen. F. Steele, the troops commenced to move from this place on the 23d day of March, 1864, on what is known as the military road leading to Benton and Rockport. The bridge train, consisting of thirty-four wagons, with two companies of the Twenty-fourth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, under command of Capt. S. P. Barris, the senior officer present, acting as pontoniers, moved out on that day at the head of the general supply train. The battalion being small in numbers, at my request General Steele re-enforced them by a detail of 100 men from what was then known as the Fourth Arkansas, African descent. These men were recruits for one of the colored regiments, and were unarmed. Spades, shovels, picks, and axes were distributed among them, and they were usefully employed on the march in repairing the road, helping the bridge train through bad places, and useful as pontoniers whenever the bridge was laid. The advance of the column encamped on the Saline River, 26 miles from Little Rock, on the 24th. It had rained on the 24th, and we found the road soft in the Saline bottom, which became badly cut up before the train was all over on the 25th. It became necessary to corduroy a portion of it in order to get the whole train over. Upon leaving the bottom we

met with long and steep hills of a sticky red clay, which clung to the wheels with great tenacity, and to overcome it the animals had to exert their utmost strength. So exhausted were the mules that they were unable to make but a short march. The whole command encamped in and around the town of Rockport on the 26th. This town lies on the east side of the Washita (Ouachita) River, on quite high but gently rolling ground. It was almost entirely deserted. The river here was a beautiful and clear stream, flowing over a fine gravelly bed. It was fordable opposite the town for single horsemen, and was fordable 1½ miles below the town for the whole army. I examined this ford very minutely and found its greatest depth, for a distance of 150 feet in width, to be not more than 30 inches at that time. This river rising very quickly, and affected by showers even, it was decided to lay the bridge across the stream above the ford, so as to be certain and at the same time to pass the infantry over. At daylight the bridge was in position and its construction commenced. The cavalry and train forded the river and took up the march for Arkadelphia. The mountain howitzers and infantry crossed on the bridge. It was thrown to an island, making its length 217 feet. From the island to the west bank it was bridged by a temporary one made by the pioneer company of the Third Division. The bridge was dismantled, loaded on the wagons, and continued the day's march in the rear of the train. Our march proceeded without delay to Arkadelphia. We found Bayou Roche well named, for the ford was quite deep and filled with bowlders of considerable size. Caddo Creek was a beautiful, flowing stream of about 150 feet, where we forded it. The pioneer company, by taking an old ferry-boat and anchoring it below the ford where it was more narrow, extemporized a bridge of about 75 feet in length, over which the infantry passed. The whole command encamped in and around Arkadelphia on the 29th of March, where the general expected to make a junction with General Thayer by the 1st of April.

Excepting continual skirmishing with the enemy by our advance from the time we reached Benton until we arrived at Arkadelphia, we had nothing to disturb us or our progress, save the natural obstacles incident to bad roads and crossing of streams. Scouts and spies had been sent in the direction that General Thayer was expected, but we could hear nothing from him. This was explained afterward by the fact that want of forage and bad roads had caused him to follow another line of march, and in consequence a much longer one.

General Steele proposed to move his command on the 1st, on the road to Washington as far as Spoonville, a distance of 12 miles. His instructions were to go by the way of Camden and Arkadelphia. From Arkadelphia to go to Camden were three traveled routes by citizens—one to cross the Washita at that point and follow down the east bank of the river and recross it in the vicinity of Camden; another down the west bank of the river and cross the Little Missouri near its mouth; and another, well known and most traveled, which crosses the Little Missouri River at Tate's Ferry. Upon a careful examination all were rejected—the first from plain military motives; the second because the first 30 miles lay entirely in the alluvial bottom of the river, and its utter impracticability for a wagon train like ours; and the third because of the crossing of the Terre Noir Creek, the long bottom on the north side of the river at the ferry with the high bluff on the south side, and the enemy expected

us to cross there and had made preparations at that point to dispute our crossing. The general decided to move on the Washington road for 20 miles, and while he threw forward a small force, to make it appear he was still upon that road, to turn off due south, passing through Okolona, seize Elkin's Ferry, a good crossing, and used often by citizens going from a little town called Rome to Washington.

On the 1st, the command encamped at Spoonville. At this point the enemy were still in doubt as to our course; for we were near the road to Tate's Ferry, on the road to Washington, and if General Thayer followed his original route proposed, or the one we had come from Rockport to Caddo Creek, he would save a march of 12 miles. Feeling certain that no enemy north of the Little Missouri River could impede General Thayer's progress, and not being able to hear from him, the general commanding thought it best to proceed and hold the crossing of the Little Missouri River. I regarded the Little Missouri River at that time to be a more serious obstacle than the enemy. It was between us and Camden. It manifestly takes its name from its resemblance to the Missouri River. Very much smaller, but after a heavy rain the color of its water, rapid current, sudden turns and bends and drift wood and snags make it a copy of its namesake, only differing in size. The main stream has a good gravelly bed where we crossed it, but low banks. On each side for at least 2 miles the country is a low, level flat of alluvial formation, generally of a very dark color, in many places resting on a mushy, sticky, yellow clay, which would squeeze out of crevices and holes whenever any pressure was brought to bear near it. This bottom, passable for the ordinary travel of such a community as this in dry weather, was only passable with great labor by an army train, but after a few hours of rain becomes one quagmire and morass, and the passage of an army train soon converts it into a sea of mud.

On moving from Spoonville on the 2d, the rear was attacked by Shelby, who made several vigorous charges, but was handsomely repulsed by our troops under command of Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice, who had the fortune to command in rear on that day. Our advance of cavalry developed the forces of Marmaduke and Cabell, who were determined to dispute our advance on the Washington road, but in accordance with the plans before determined upon, General Steele threw forward cavalry and seized Elkin's Ferry, re-enforcing them with a brigade of infantry. While the command encamped at and near the ferry and still waited for General Thayer, a brigade of infantry, under Colonel Engelmann, and one of cavalry, under Colonel Ritter, all under command of the former officer, were sent back as far as Spoonville to communicate with General Thayer, if possible, and drive Shelby away from the rear. Near Okolona Colonel Engelmann met Shelby and whipped him. He moved to Spoonville and returned.

On the afternoon of the 3d, the enemy discovered our pickets near Elkin's Ferry. Marmaduke and Cabell hurried around to our front, and on the morning of the 4th made a fierce attack, but were repulsed with ease by our forces. It was reported on the evening of the 5th that the enemy were felling trees and fortifying in our front. General Steele determined to wait no longer but to move against them. On the 6th, the column moved, and after some skirmishing the enemy fled, leaving over a mile of breast-works of timber and earth crowning the hills which overlook the bottom and perfectly commanding the road along which we had to march. A messenger

through from Little Rock joined us to-day and reported General Thayer at Rockport when he passed. It was decided by General Steele to wait for him at this place, known as the Widow Cornelius', and 3½ miles to the ferry. On the 7th, working parties were sent back to repair the roads so as to pass General Thayer's train. At nightfall it commenced to rain, and lasted for several hours.

Daylight the next morning showed that all the work of the day before was undone; corduroying and bridges were all afloat, the whole bottom nearly was under water, and the Little Missouri was no longer fordable, having risen 3 feet. The bridge train was ordered to the ferry, and working details placed on the road to repair the worst places. It was after dark before the bridge train reached the river. The head of General Thayer's column was on the high ground on the other side, and had nearly 3 miles of bottom to cross. At daylight, under my personal supervision, the bridge was laid. The stream was very rapid, but with a strong cable stretched across and fastened to two large trees and the pontoons doubled, a firm bridge of 140 feet in length was finished. It was ready before the head of his column reached the bank, and passed his whole command and train without any delay or hinderance. His whole train was across, but all of it did not get out of the bottom that night.

The whole command moved on the 10th for Prairie D'Ane. You will perceive by the map that we were on the direct road to Spring Hill, which was on the road and the nearest way to Shreveport—a road traveled by the rebels more than the one by Washington and Fulton. The road leading from Camden to Washington intersects this road nearly at right angles on the prairie. The enemy occupied the ground in front of the junction of these roads, under command of General Price, who had here concentrated all his forces that were available. Their position was a good one and well chosen, on a gentle swelling ridge, with their flanks resting in the timbered land. We had to advance our front over the open ground in easy range, while our skirmishers drove in their flankers. The skirmish was brisk, and the enemy used their artillery freely, but we easily drove them from their position and held it. After nightfall they gallantly charged one of our batteries, but were repulsed. They fell back on the right-hand road, which leads to Washington. General Steele moved against them the next day as soon as he got his troops in line of battle, but night came on before we had crossed the prairie.

The men laid under arms and resumed the movement at daylight of the 12th, turning the left of the enemy's position, causing him to evacuate nearly a mile of rifle-pits, with positions for artillery, and nearly a mile of felled timber thrown up as breast-works. Cavalry were thrown forward on this road as if it was the intention to follow on, while the main column with train took the road to Camden. The head of the column encamped on the Terre Rouge Creek that night. The bottom for 1 mile was so bad that the command was delayed very much the next day in crossing. All that I have said about the Little Missouri bottom applies even more forcibly to this stream. The next obstacle was Cypress Bayou, as it is on the maps, but called by the country people Caney. Here two bridges had to be repaired, and some corduroying to be done. From this point until we reached Camden the road was good. While the advance was crossing the Terre Rouge Creek the rear was attacked by the enemy. General Thayer had command of the rear and drove them back, scattering them with ease.

On the evening of the 14th, our scouting parties from the front discovered the enemy in force. They had evidently made a forced march from Washington by what is called the middle road, to get in our front to detain us, while Price, moving by the lower or main stage road, hoped to reach Camden before us. General Steele ordered the start at 4 a. m. the next day, and although the enemy made a gallant resistance, at a point 14 miles from Camden, he was quickly driven from his position and followed up so closely that no line was formed between that point and Camden, the advance marching in and taking possession of the city and works before dark, having marched 21 miles and fought quite a battle on that day, the 15th. Under orders from General Steele, I laid the pontoon bridge across the Washita River at a point opposite the town connecting with the road to Pine Bluff. At this place the length of the bridge was 265 feet. The rest of the time that I was in Camden was devoted to a careful reconnaissance of our whole front. A tracing of the map* of the town of Camden, with the position of the forts, made under my direction by Lieut. F. Sommer, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, who acted as assistant engineer on this campaign, accompanies this report.

We had received rumors that General Banks had met with a severe repulse on Red River. This was confirmed by the arrival of an aide-de-camp of that general, who acknowledged the defeat and brought a request that General Steele would move immediately forward and join him on Red River. To suppose that a force of about 12,000 men, without supplies, ammunition scant, could move over a country nearly barren of forage and exhausted of supplies, in the face of an active and exultant enemy, under the command of one of the most energetic and skillful of the rebel generals, and then to cross a river like the Red to make a junction with General Banks' forces, leaving all this country open, was so absurd that General Steele did not entertain it for one moment. The results of the past few days prove the accuracy of General Steele's judgment.

The command had marched the whole distance on half rations of hard bread, quarter rations of bacon, and full rations of coffee and salt, relying on the country for the filling out of the ration, and of this short allowance we had very little left. The country was foraged around for corn to supply the place of bread and forage for our suffering animals. It was on one of these foraging expeditions for corn that we lost the train captured by the enemy on the 18th.

On the 20th, we received a supply train of ten days' rations, in the same proportion as before mentioned. This train was immediately sent back for a fresh supply, leaving Camden on the 23d, protected by an entire brigade of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and a proper proportion of cavalry. On the evening of the 25th, we heard of its capture. Scouting parties had gone up and down the east bank of the Washita for 30 miles before it started, and no evidence of the enemy was seen. We have since learned that they made a forced march of 48 miles on the 24th and 8 miles on the morning of the 25th, having crossed the Washita nearly 50 miles below Camden. This event showed the precarious nature of our supplies.

Our scouting parties in the front had succeeded in capturing prisoners who claimed to belong to infantry divisions of the enemy. Our spies, deserters coming into our lines, and stories told us by the

* Not found.

residents of the country, all coincide that General Kirby Smith in person, with re-enforcements of infantry, had joined Price. Our position was by no means a safe one. With an army superior in numbers in our front, and a mounted force of not less than 6,000 to act upon our line of communications, and with the meager supply of rations on hand, it was evident that a crisis was at hand. General Steele immediately gave orders to evacuate the town, to move over the river such wagons and artillery during the day that would not attract the attention of the residents of the place. At nightfall pickets were doubled, vigilance exercised, tattoo beaten and sounded at the usual time and in the same places, and the whole army commenced to move across the river. At daylight the whole army was safe and the bridge taken up and all on the road to Princeton. This was the 27th. The army encamped at Princeton on the 28th. The 29th saw us at Jenkins' Ferry on the Saline River, where the direct road leads to Little Rock, and also a fair road to Pine Bluff. The river was too deep to ford, and the pontoon train was hurried up, thrown across under my direction and personal supervision, and ready for troops to pass at 4.15 p. m. All the cavalry and many wagons were passed over before dark. There was slight skirmishing in the rear in the afternoon. Rain commenced to fall about 12 m., and poured incessantly all day and night. I never saw it rain harder than it did during the night. The bottom, which extends at least 2 miles on each side, possesses all the characteristics of the Little Missouri, being, if anything, much worse. It soon became a sea of mud, in which wagons settled to the axles and mules floundered about without a resting place for their feet. Fires were made along the road, pioneers and working details set to work, and every exertion made to push the impedimenta across before daylight, it being evident that the enemy were in force in our rear. But we failed. The rain came down in torrents, putting out many of the fires, the men became exhausted, and both they and the animals sank down in the mud and mire, wherever they were, to seek a few hours' repose. At daylight we resumed our labors, and by 11 a. m. everything was across the river except the infantry and one section of artillery. During this time a severe engagement was going on and lasted until 12.30 p. m., at which hour, the enemy having been badly beaten, our troops were withdrawn to the east side of the river. The last of the infantry had crossed before 2.05 p. m. Our troops, with artillery, were drawn up on the bank protecting the bridge until it was decided to take it up. The bridge was kept intact for three-quarters of an hour longer to allow such stragglers or wounded who may have loitered behind to pass over. One of the hospital attendants from the hospital on the battle-field having arrived with a message from the surgeon in charge to his brigade commander, having stated that there were no men on the road, I, acting under the orders of Major-General Steele, gave the command for destroying the bridge. The reason for this order was our inability to carry it with us. It had in the natural course of the train become the rear. The mules could scarcely pull the wagons, much less when loaded, and over such a road it was impossible to get it along. The pontoons were very much the worse for wear, and several were worn out, so as no longer to be reliable. It was destroyed by cutting each compartment with an ax and piercing them with the bayonet. Many of the chesses were split with axes and then thrown in the stream, and some of the balks were thrown in after cutting them in two parts. The bridge was

dismantled by successive rafts and destroyed by detail. When the last pontoon was destroyed, I ordered the commanding officer to move his command to the high ground and select a camp. I then left the river bank and rode to the front and reported to Major-General Steele. Excepting a very bad piece of road which extended for about 2 miles after leaving the 2 miles of bottom of the Saline River, there was no other obstacle or hinderance to our march, but those 2 miles surpass any that I have ever seen, and from the absence of small timber and brushwood it was difficult to repair it; but by sacrificing a great deal, destroying many wagons, and by the men taking hold of them we finally pushed through this place. On the 3d, the command marched into Little Rock.

I would respectfully call the general's attention to the want of engineer troops in this army corps. The pioneer company worked well; the ordinary details badly. The failure to receive extra pay for fatigue duty is very defective. Men will not work as they are required to, unless receiving something more, under our present organizations. The same remark applies to those pontoniers, or men acting as such. If they only receive the same pay while on that service that they do while on ordinary duty it is impossible to get them to take that pride in their business and work with zeal when the service requires it.

A requisition for a new bridge has already been forwarded to Colonel Simpson at Cincinnati, asking for one of the same kind as the old one. Although having serious defects, the reduction in number of wagons is so important a matter in this country that it overcomes the other faults.

Allow me to call the attention of the general commanding to the ever prompt and cordial co-operation of Lieut. F. Sommer, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in all my duties while on the march.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. WHEELER,
Captain of Engineers, Chief Engineer.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Capt. Charles A. Henry, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Army, Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, ARK. EXPDN.,
In the Field, May 12, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 12th day of March I was ordered by Maj. Gen. F. Steele, commanding Seventh Army Corps and Department of Arkansas, to accompany the expedition which was about to start for the Red River, as chief quartermaster on the staff of the major-general commanding. There being no officer of the quartermaster's department detailed to relieve me in the duties of depot quartermaster of the Department of Arkansas, I placed the business connected with that office in charge of Mr. George A. Gannett, my chief clerk, and on the 23d day of March I left this

post with the transportation of the expedition. The section of country through which the expedition passed for the first 80 miles was almost entirely destitute of forage, but by great exertions we were enabled to keep our transportation in as good order and condition as it was when we left Little Rock. The spring rains had already commenced, swelling the streams and putting the roads in a terrible condition. After crossing the Saline River 25 miles south of this post, I was obliged to build corduroy roads a greater portion of the distance. Our column was constantly harassed by the enemy's cavalry during the entire campaign, making it impossible to send out forage trains unless accompanied by large escorts. The pontoon bridge which we brought from Little Rock was laid over the Ouachita River at Rockport on the 27th day of March, and a successful crossing was effected without the loss of a single animal or wagon. The forage which was brought from Little Rock was entirely exhausted at that point. Not having enough transportation to make up a forage train at Little Rock, I placed several days' forage in each wagon attached to the expedition, hoping that we would find and be enabled to procure sufficient corn from the country after advancing 70 or 80 miles. I was compelled to depend upon a section of country for forage which had been occupied by the entire cavalry force of the enemy during the past winter. As our forces advanced the guerrillas destroyed all the corn they could not use.

The expedition reached Arkadelphia, Ark., 90 miles south of Little Rock, on the 29th of March, without any loss. We remained at that place several days expecting to be joined by the Army of the Frontier, under command of Brigadier-General Thayer, which was expected to reach Arkadelphia on the 30th. While at that place I organized a forage train and was enabled to procure sufficient forage to supply the command. I also seized and procured a few horses and mules to fill up broken-down teams. Nothing of interest occurred after leaving Arkadelphia until the second day, when we were attacked by the enemy in force. The main attack was made on the rear portion of the train, which was guarded by General Rice, who repulsed the enemy, punishing them severely. No wagons were lost during the engagement and the trains moved with the army up to the Little Missouri River, which was crossed after a severe engagement with Marmaduke's command without incurring any loss to our transportation. We remained encamped on the south side of the river for two days, until the Army of the Frontier came up.

In the meanwhile the Little Missouri River had become so swollen by recent rains that it became necessary to lay down the pontoon bridge, and they were crossed without any loss whatever. This division had been delayed in their march by reason of the enormous trains and the condition of the public animals belonging to the command. General Thayer's command consisted of six regiments of infantry, three regiments of cavalry, and two batteries, with over 300 wagons, there being as many as twenty-two wagons to a single regiment. I procured an order from the major-general commanding reducing the transportation of the command down to the amount allowed the other divisions of the Seventh Army Corps. (Inclosed please find copy of the order.*) Nothing of interest occurred until reaching Camden, April 15. Up to this date we had lost no transportation; all the wagons with which I started from Little Rock were brought into Camden; also those of General Thayer's com-

*Omitted as unimportant.

mand, which joined me at the Little Missouri River. Some few animals were lost in the swamps between Prairie D'Ane and Camden, but think our loss was less than 200 animals from the 23d day of March to the 15th day of April, the day we reached Camden. There were about 800 wagons and nearly 12,000 public animals with the command on the 15th day of April. The difficulty of procuring forage occasioned great uneasiness, as we were without any base of supplies and with an active enemy in front. The country about Camden contained quite an amount of corn, but the enemy sent out bands of cavalry to burn and destroy all corn and other supplies that could be found. The chief commissary of the army had made requisitions on me for corn for the men of the command, as our supplies of breadstuffs were entirely exhausted, and it was thought best to try and procure sufficient corn to furnish half allowance of forage and one-fourth rations of meal to the men. I accordingly made up, under the directions of the major-general commanding, a forage train consisting of 177 wagons on the 17th of April, and sent them out some 16 miles to a point where I knew of there being some 5,000 bushels of corn. The trains reached the place and found that about 2,500 had been burnt that day, yet loaded 141 wagons and returned to within 12 miles of Camden, when they were attacked by the enemy, commanded by General Price, some 8,000 strong, and after a desperate resistance by the escort, in which we lost 240 killed and wounded, the entire train was captured and destroyed by him.

On the night of the 16th, a steamer laden with corn (about 3,000 bushels) was captured by our cavalry at a point on the Ouachita River 30 miles below Camden and brought up to that place. My forage parties also found small lots of corn secreted, and the Union people of the place reported to me the amount of corn they had, which I purchased, giving vouchers for. A train of 150 wagons, laden with subsistence, ordnance, and quartermaster's stores, reached Camden on the 20th of April from Pine Bluff, which was a great relief to the command. On the 22d, they were ordered back to Pine Bluff, Ark., and I added 61 additional wagons to the train, making 211 wagons. On the 25th, they were attacked at a point about 30 miles north of Camden by 6,000 cavalry under command of General Fagan, and the entire train was captured. Nearly 300 of the escort were killed and wounded. It being impossible to procure forage and subsistence for the command, and the rebel General Kirby Smith having joined General Price with a large force of infantry from Shreveport, at a council of war held on the night of the 25th, it was decided to abandon the line of Ouachita and fall back to Little Rock, distant 120 miles. I received orders to destroy such wagons and stores as could not be removed for lack of animals, which was accordingly done on the night of the 26th, while the army was crossing the pontoon bridge over the Ouachita. A large number of animals had broken down on account of having no forage, and I was forced to destroy ninety-two wagons and a large amount of harness. Several hundred mules were driven along with the command, hoping to be enabled to get them through to Little Rock; most of them were abandoned, however, on the march. Forage was procured for the animals the first day after leaving Camden, but were destitute after that time until we reached Little Rock (six days).

The command reached the Saline River on the 29th of April; the pontoon bridge was laid and the crossing commenced, which

continued through the night and the next day, over 4 miles of the worst swamps in Arkansas. Our rear guard was attacked before the bridge was laid, but the enemy was repulsed. A terrific thunderstorm commenced about 1 p. m., and lasted the entire night. At daylight I had crossed about one-half the train, and the balance was in readiness to cross and everything was over about noon of the 30th, except 4,000 of the infantry, who were covering our crossing and resisting 20,000 rebels commanded by Kirby Smith, who was on the ground at an early hour in the morning. The formation of ground enabled us to hold the enemy in check, although the roads were in such a horrible condition that there was but little artillery on the ground.

Three pieces brought up by the enemy fell into our hands, and were drawn off by the men with ropes. The enemy having been signally repulsed and terribly punished, we were allowed to withdraw across the Saline. Not having animals to haul the pontoon train, it was destroyed, together with the pontoon bridge. The storm continued, and the animals giving out for want of food, the rations of the men being exhausted, an order was issued to destroy all the wagons except those attached to the different headquarters, the ammunition, and the ambulances, which was done on the night of the 30th of April, and the march resumed at daylight.

The command reached this place May 3, with the ammunition train, ambulances, and headquarters wagons (some 200 wagons in all). The animals had not been out of harness for six days, and entirely exhausted. I mounted the wounded and foot-sore men on the animals that were taken from the wagons. I also supplied all the batteries with mules to take the place of broken-down horses. No artillery was abandoned during the campaign, and whenever the teams gave out I pressed the animals belonging to sutlers and others.

At my request the commanding general detailed Lieut. E. P. Pearce, regimental quartermaster Seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, to report to me, and was by me assigned to duty as acting assistant quartermaster in charge of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, quartermaster's stores, and land transportation at the post of Camden, Ark., and continued in the full discharge of the duties of this position until the army arrived at Little Rock. Lieutenant Pearce entered upon the duties of depot quartermaster about the 20th of April, and was a faithful and efficient officer, discharging all the duties of this arduous position, and often under the most embarrassing circumstances, with marked ability and success. (See inclosed circular of assignment to duty.) On the 4th of May I was relieved from duty as depot quartermaster at this place by Capt. J. G. Haskell, assistant quartermaster, who arrived at this post while I was in the field. I am now engaged in transferring to him. The amount of clothing, camp and garrison equipage for which I am accountable as depot quartermaster is very large, comprising nearly complete outfits for 40,000 men for eight months. The transfer will consequently require some time, and will probably be completed about the 1st of June.

I am, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HENRY,

Capt. and Asst. Quartermaster, Chief Quartermaster.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,

Quartermaster-General U. S. Army.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. ARK. EXPDN., OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camden, April 16, 1864.

Lieut. GEORGE O. SOKALSKI,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Ark. Expdn., Camden, Ark.:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to request that a detail of one regiment of cavalry and one regiment of infantry, and also a section of a battery, be made to act as an escort for 150 or 200 forage wagons, which I propose to send out to-morrow for forage some 15 miles on the Washington road. Will you have the kindness to order the officer in command of the escort to report at my office at 5 a. m. to-morrow, April 17.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Q. M., Chief Quartermaster Ark. Expdn.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to Brigadier General Thayer, who will detail 200 cavalry, one regiment of infantry, and two pieces of artillery to guard the train. The commanding officer with his escort will report at General Thayer's headquarters at 5 a. m. of to-morrow, when he will be met by an officer of the quartermaster's department, who will point out the place at which the forage will be gathered.

By order of Major-General Steele:
GEO. O. SOKALSKI,
First Lieut., Second Cav., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &C.,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
In the Field, Camden, Ark., April 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Comdg. Dept. of Arkansas, &c., Camden, Ark.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a forage train, consisting of 177 empty wagons, which was sent out from this post for corn on the morning of the 17th instant, some 18 miles on the Washington road, at which 141 of the wagons were loaded, was captured yesterday by the enemy, commanded by General Price in person, on its return, some 12 miles west of this place. The wagon-master in charge of the train informs me that the rebel cavalry had burned a lot of 2,500 bushels of corn the day before the train arrived, and that he understood from the people along the road that all the corn remaining in the country was now being burned by squads of cavalry detached for that purpose from Marmaduke's command.

I would, general, most respectfully represent that we have only half forage for the animals of this command for one day, and in view of the alarming scarcity of forage along the line of the Ouachita, I beg leave to suggest that all the worthless animals attached to this command be collected and turned out to graze in the canebrakes within our lines under charge of a suitable guard. There are now over 10,000 animals attached to this command for which it will be impossible to provide forage after the next two or three days. I believe that over 2,000 worthless horses and mules could be collected, and thus relieve us from the necessity of procuring forage for them.

Trusting, general, that this matter will receive your attention at the earliest possible moment, I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Quartermaster, Chief Quartermaster.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &c.,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
In the Field, Camden, April 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Comdg. Seventh Army Corps and Dept. of Arkansas:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the wagon train of 211 wagons which left this post on the 23d instant for Pine Bluff, for the purpose of loading with subsistence stores for the use of this command, was captured by the enemy, under command of General Fagan, to-day at a point some 30 miles north of this post. I am informed, general, by Mr. Coles, wagon-master in charge of the train, that a portion of the wagons were set on fire by shells from the enemy's artillery and entirely consumed, and that about 150 fell into the hands of the enemy. I most respectfully beg leave, general, again to call your attention to the impossibility of procuring forage for the public animals in this command. Our losses of animals by capture will amount to some 2,000. Since leaving Little Rock the wagoners have brought in from the two captured trains quite a number of mules, but we have still nearly 9,000 horses and mules to provide forage for, and in the present impoverished condition of this part of the State it is impossible to secure forage for even 1,000. Will you have the kindness, general, to give this question of supplying forage your immediate and earnest attention.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Q. M., Chief Quartermaster Ark. Expdn.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS, &c.,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
In the Field, Little Rock, Ark., May 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Comdg. Dept. of Arkansas, &c., Little Rock, Ark.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit for your inspection the annexed statement of the number of wagons captured by the enemy and destroyed by me during the late campaign to the Ouachita; also the number of public animals lost. The official reports of the acting division quartermasters have not as yet been received at this office, but there will be but very little variation from the annexed statement, which is based on the memorandum to this office by the principal wagon-masters accompanying the expedition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Quartermaster, Chief Quartermaster.

[Sub-inclosure.]

Statement of wagons and mules captured and destroyed in the expedition of the Seventh Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. Steele commanding:

* * * * * * *

Recapitulation: Total number of wagons captured by the enemy, 298; total number of wagons burned during engagements by the enemy's projectiles, about 90; total number of wagons destroyed by orders, 247; total number of wagons missing, 635; total number of mules captured, about 2,000; total number of mules lost and abandoned, about 500; total number of mules missing, 2,500.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

HDQRS. ARK. EXPDN., OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camp No. 16, *Camden, Ark., April* 20, 1864.

Lieut. E. P. Pearce, regimental quartermaster Seventy-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, having reported to this office in pursuance of Special Orders, No. 9, from headquarters Department of Arkansas, is hereby assigned to duty as acting assistant quartermaster in charge of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, quartermaster's stores, and land transportation at this post.

By order of Major-General Steele:

C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Q. M., Chief Quartermaster Ark. Expdn.

No. 5.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Frederick Salomon, U. S. Army, commanding Third Division, Seventh Army Corps.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Elkin's Ford,
On Little Missouri River, Ark., April 7, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command since leaving Little Rock:

This division, consisting of three brigades of infantry (ten regiments in all) and three batteries of artillery (sixteen guns), marched from Little Rock, Ark., on the 23d ultimo, as part of the forces under command of Maj. Gen. F. Steele. Nothing of particular interest occurred until the 2d instant. On that day the march was continued from Hollywood (Witherspoonville), on the Washington road. The Second Brigade, commanded by Col. William E. McLean, of Forty-third Indiana Infantry, was in the advance, and the Third, Col. A. Engelmann, Forty-third Illinois Infantry, commanding, in the center. The First Brigade, consisting of the Ninth Wisconsin, Fiftieth Indiana, Thirty-third Iowa, and Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, with Voegele's battery of four guns, all under command of Brig. Gen. Samuel A. Rice, was placed in the rear with orders to guard the general supply and pontoon trains, and to camp at or near Okolona and in the vicinity of the other portion of the command. An attack upon the rear from the enemy was considered probable, and General Rice was instructed to make such dispositions as should insure the safety of our trains. The nature of the country and the condition of the roads made this task difficult, as the trains extended to considerable length, and General Rice had no cavalry to protect his flanks or to give notice of the enemy's movement. At noon the rear guard, consisting of the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, under command of Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr., and one section of Voegele's battery, was attacked near Gentry's Creek

by the enemy under General Shelby, numbering about 1,500, with three pieces of artillery. General Rice ordered the Fiftieth Indiana from the front to the rear, to re-enforce the rear guard. After a sharp engagement the enemy was repulsed, and General Rice moved on his command toward Okolona. About half a mile this side of the junction of the Washington and Camden roads the enemy, having been re-enforced, made another attack and were again driven back after hard fighting. General Rice's command reached Okolona at 10 p. m. During this engagement it became necessary for General Rice to withdraw from the front all his forces except the Thirty-third Iowa, which was disposed at intervals along the train. I therefore ordered the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, of Colonel Engelmann's brigade, to cover and protect the train, which arrived in camp without the loss of a wagon. On the arrival of the Third Brigade at Okolona one regiment had been sent to support the cavalry forces, which were retreating from the Washington road. The remaining forces of Colonel Engelmann's brigade I disposed to protect the trains as they came in. The battery (Captain Vaughn's) was fired on by a party of the enemy who approached on the Arkadelphia road. Our loss this day was as follows: Killed, 8; wounded, 32; wounded and missing, 5; missing, 18; total, 63. Four of the missing have since returned to their respective regiments, reducing the number of casualties to 59. The loss of the enemy cannot be accurately stated, but from information deemed reliable, I have good reason to believe that his loss is greatly in excess of our own. On the evening of the 2d, Col. William E. McLean's brigade, excepting the Seventy-seventh Ohio and two pieces of Stange's battery, was sent forward to cross the Little Missouri River at Elkin's Ford, 4 miles beyond Okolona, with a view of holding the ford. This duty was promptly performed, and Colonel McLean took possession of the position at 9 p. m. without opposition.

On the morning of the 3d, Colonel Engelmann's brigade, re-enforced by the Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, of Colonel McLean's brigade, and consisting in all of four regiments of infantry and Vaughn's battery of six guns, was left at Okolona with orders to proceed with Colonel Ritter's cavalry brigade as far back as Hollywood, and endeavor to communicate with General Thayer. The First Brigade moved on to Elkin's Ford and encamped on the left bank of the Little Missouri. Colonel Engelmann's command was attacked by the enemy at Okolona before the arrival of the cavalry forces under Colonel Ritter. The enemy was driven back and pursued by the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, Colonel Krez commanding, for 2 miles. Our losses were as follows: Killed, 3; wounded, 7; total, 10.

On the arrival of Colonel Ritter's cavalry command at Okolona, Colonel Engelmann marched toward Hollywood, which place he reached on the 4th. He returned with his command and rejoined the division in camp near Elkin's Ford on the evening of the 5th, reporting that he had not heard from General Thayer. On the 3d instant the enemy made some demonstrations in front of Colonel McLean's position. Three companies of the Forty-third Indiana were sent forward as skirmishers, and soon ascertained the enemy's position. Sixteen enlisted men of the enemy being cut off came into our lines and surrendered. Early on the morning of the 4th, the enemy attacked Colonel McLean's command, consisting of the

Thirty-sixth Iowa and Forty-third Indiana Infantry and four pieces of Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery, in force, under command of Marmaduke in person. The action lasted until 11 a. m., at which time the enemy's forces retired, having been repulsed at all points. During the progress of this engagement, Colonel McLean being pressed by the enemy, I ordered the Twenty-ninth Iowa and Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, of General Rice's brigade (under command of General Rice), to his support. The enemy retired soon after the arrival of these re-enforcements, the Twenty-ninth Iowa rendering efficient service at the close of the action. General Rice was slightly wounded in the head during the engagement. The enemy's force, as nearly as could be ascertained, consisted of Cabell's and Greene's brigades, with five pieces of artillery, only four of which were brought into action. In the early part of the action Lieutenant Fackler, aide-de-camp to General Marmaduke, was captured by our skirmishers under Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry. Our casualties were as follows: Wounded, commissioned officer (Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice), 1; enlisted men, 25. From all appearances the enemy's loss must have reached 50 killed and wounded.

Detailed reports from brigade and regimental commanders are herewith inclosed, to which I beg leave to refer. I embrace this opportunity to commend the conduct of all the officers and men of my command who took part in the operations above referred to. I desire especially to notice the promptness and ability displayed by commanders of brigades, regiments, and batteries.

Recapitulation of casualties up to date: Killed: Enlisted men, 11. Wounded: Commissioned officers, 4; enlisted men, 60. Missing: enlisted men, 23. Total: Commissioned officers, 4; enlisted men, 94.

Respectfully submitting the above report, I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. SALOMON,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. Third Division, Seventh Army Corps.

Lieut. GEORGE O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Seventh Army Corps.

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HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camden, Ark., April 22, 1864.

SIR: On the 7th instant I had the honor to submit, for the information of the major-general commanding, a report of the operations of my division from the day it left Little Rock up to and including the action near Elkin's Ford on the 4th of the present month. I have now the honor respectfully to submit a report of further operations, as follows: In obedience to instructions from the major-general commanding, my division left camp on the Little Missouri River April 6, moving forward carefully in the rear of and supporting the division of cavalry commanded by Brigadier-General Carr, and encamped about midway between the river and Prairie D'Ane, near certain breast-works of logs from which the enemy had intended to harass and retard our march. In this camp my division remained three days, sending out each day heavy details to protect forage trains, and to repair the roads in our rear to facilitate the march of General Thayer's division. On Sunday, the 10th instant, at about 1

o'clock, I commenced to move forward and advanced some 4 miles or more to the prairie, closing the day with a severe skirmish, in which the enemy was successively driven from one position to another until dark, at which time my division occupied the highest ridge on the prairie, Colonel Engelmann's brigade with Vaughn's battery on the right, General Rice's brigade with Voegele's battery on the left, Colonel McLean's brigade in reserve guarding the trains. In this skirmish the Forty-third Illinois Infantry, gallantly led by Lieutenant-Colonel Dengler, bore a conspicuous part, charging the first height with the bayonet and dislodging the enemy. Vaughn's battery, too, acquitted itself with much credit, moving forward and taking position with exemplary celerity, and delivering its fire with fatal precision. The troops of my division lay to arms through the night. From 10 p. m. until midnight Vaughn's battery and the infantry supporting it were subjected to repeated attacks from the enemy; these, however, were successfully repulsed without serious loss. The night was cold, but the troops, without complaining, lay out on the open prairie with no fires to warm or shelter to protect them. The following afternoon, an advance having been ordered, Rice's brigade formed in line of battle and moved forward, drawing the enemy's fire.

It was deemed too late to bring on a general engagement, and a halt was therefore ordered, retaining this advanced position until after dark, and thereby admitting our trains to forage. I then withdrew my troops and occupied substantially the position of the previous night. At daybreak the following morning, April 12, my division was ready to move forward, General Rice's brigade on the right, Colonel Engelmann's on the left, and Colonel McLean's in reserve, with cavalry on either flank. Skirmishers having become engaged, the brigades in advance were deployed in line and advanced to within 1 mile of the enemy's works, when Rice's brigade was ordered to change front forward, thereby outflanking the enemy, who left his works without any further contest. Halting a short time to rest, this division was then moved forward on the road toward Camden, across the prairie through Moscow, and encamped for the night. The roads in advance having been reported impassable, heavy details were sent forward the following morning to assist the pioneer corps in repairing roads and bridges. At noon the division moved forward through the bottoms, and camped for the night near Cypress Bayou. Here again the roads were bad, and much labor was expended in making them passable.

In obedience to orders from army headquarters, information having been received that the enemy was attempting to reach Camden in advance of our own force, toward evening of the 14th Rice's brigade with Stange's battery moved in advance, and reporting to General Carr camped for the night near White Oak Creek, 18 miles from Camden, the balance of the division camping 6 miles farther back guarding the trains. April 15, General Rice's brigade moved forward at sunrise, skirmishing lightly with the enemy's rear guard until some 2 miles beyond (this side of) the junction of the middle Washington and Camden road with the one on which we had moved forward. There the enemy opened upon our advance with five pieces of artillery. Captain Stange, chief of artillery for the Third Division, who, pursuant to his own request, accompanied the advance, immediately brought his battery forward and replied to the enemy's fire, succeeding, after a very spirited engagement of

nearly two hours, in dislodging the enemy's battery. The infantry was now ordered to advance, and although at two or three different places attempts were made to check our progress and shells were thrown at our advancing column, yet so persistently did our skirmishers move on that the enemy was driven forward, and, as opportunity offered, took his force to the right and left of the road. Leaving guards at such places, I moved the main column forward, Rice's brigade entering Camden shortly after sundown. Engelmann's brigade was halted 1½ miles from town, and there awaited the arrival of McLean's brigade in charge of the various supply and ordnance trains. The last wagons with the rear guard of McLean's brigade reached camp about midnight, having marched 24 miles on that day.

The following is a statement of the casualties, viz: At Prairie D'Ane, killed, 3; wounded, 14. From White Oak Creek to Camden, killed, 2; wounded, 13; total, 5 killed, 27 wounded. Add previously reported, 11 killed, 64 wounded, 23 missing. Total: Killed, 16; wounded, 91; missing, 23; in all, 130, including among the wounded 4 commissioned officers.

Permit me in closing this report to commend the officers and soldiers under my command. Privations and hardships have been cheerfully endured. Wherever the enemy was supposed to be, there they have been most anxious to go; and no pillaging or wanton destruction of property has disgraced this division.

With this I forward reports from brigade commanders, and have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

F. SALOMON,
Brig. Gen., Comdg. Third Div., Seventh Army Corps.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., May 10, 1864.

MAJOR: I have heretofore submitted detailed reports of the operations of this division up to and including the 15th of April, and have now the honor to forward a report of further operations, as follows: During the occupation of Camden, April 15 to 26, inclusive, the troops of my command were very constantly on duty as pickets, provost guards, escorts for forage trains, fatigue parties, and other like duties. On the 22d of April, pursuant to instructions from department headquarters, Col. William E. McLean's brigade, and four pieces of Stange's battery, under charge of Lieut. Charles Peetz, were ordered to escort a train going to Pine Bluff, the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, reporting in person to Major-General Steele for special instructions.

On the morning of the 25th, about 40 miles from Camden, the train was attacked by 6,000 of the enemy, under Generals Fagan and Shelby, and after a desperate resistance, lasting three hours, wherein 600 or more of the enemy were killed and wounded, the entire train and most of the escort were captured. Our loss in killed and wounded is said to have been 250. The report of Lieutenant-Colonel Drake is herewith inclosed. On the 26th of April my division was ready to take up its march at the hour appointed, but the crossing of the trains occupied more time than was anticipated, and I could not commence to move until 12 p. m. Mean time, the Second and Sixth Kansas Cav-

alry having reported to me for duty, I caused two squadrons, under command of Captain Gunther, to patrol the town and prevent all irregularities, and I take pleasure in adding that this duty was successfully performed. The army was withdrawn to its last soldier without confusion or accident.

From the crossing of the Washita until reaching the Saline bottom, on the evening of the 29th of April, nothing unusual occurred. During the afternoon of that day my rear guard was occasionally fired upon, but the march was not seriously molested. This firing, however, was sufficient to inform us that the enemy were following, and deeming it important to preserve for our own use the entire bottom, I directed Colonel Engelmann to leave on the crest of the hill one regiment from his brigade, which, with two squadrons Sixth Kansas Cavalry, Captain Rogers commanding, and one section of Vaughn's battery, was instructed to hold the bottom. Very shortly thereafter skirmishing began and was kept up until dark, the enemy appearing in such considerable force that I directed one regiment to be sent from Rice's brigade to assist in holding the hills. These demonstrations in our rear convinced me that with returning daylight we might expect an attack, and I made my dispositions accordingly, withdrawing my troops at 3 a. m. beyond effective artillery range from the hill. By this I not only contracted my lines, but covered my right flank with a small bayou, rendering any movements of the enemy from that direction impracticable, while on the left the bottom was more swampy and difficult of passage, if possible, than that on which my troops were posted, and over which our trains and artillery were being sent forward to the river. At daylight my advance was 2½ miles from the river. The intervening country, naturally low and swampy, was now more than half covered with water, in consequence of heavy rains the day and night immediately preceding. There were yet 2 miles in length of train and artillery between me and the river, which must all cross before I could begin to withdraw. I had therefore to hold the position. At 5 a. m. skirmishing began in front, the Thirty-third Iowa being first engaged, afterward supported by the Fiftieth Indiana. Deeming this line too far advanced, I ordered General Rice to form a new line about half a mile in the rear nearer the river and in the timber. Scarcely had the first line been withdrawn before the enemy attacked the second with skirmishers, mounted and partly dressed in our uniform. The better to conceal their purposes they drove in their advance a flock of sheep, leading our men to suppose that they were a forage party from our own army. This ruse did not deceive us.

The first attack seemed principally directed against our right, which the enemy endeavored to turn, but the detachment of the Second Brigade and two companies of the Twenty-ninth Iowa had been sent across the bayou, otherwise called Toxie Creek, and foiled the enemy's plan. The attention of the enemy was then directed to our left, held by the Fiftieth Indiana. The Thirty-third Iowa was sent thither by General Rice, but the assault of the enemy was so heavy and persistent that our troops fell back some 250 yards. At this juncture the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin (Engelmann's brigade) was sent to the left. The Second Kansas Colored Infantry, of General Thayer's command, having reported to me, I sent it to report to General Rice on the right, and there it soon became engaged, and throughout the action bore itself with conspicuous gallantry. Soon

thereafter a portion of the First Arkansas reported, and was sent to the left, and following them came the Twelfth Kansas Infantry, which was also sent to the left. This latter regiment went in with a cheer, driving the enemy before them, when General Rice advanced his whole line nearly 300 yards. The balance of Engelmann's brigade was sent to the right. The enemy now brought up artillery on our right, but so carefully did our sharpshooters watch his movements that he was permitted to fire only 3 rounds. I had one section of Vaughn's battery in position, and permitted the lieutenant (Thomas) in command to fire 1 round to assure our own troops that in case of need we too had artillery that could be used. The second attack from the enemy was soon at its height, but our brave men, notwithstanding the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, obstinately stood their ground, and at a favorable moment the Second Kansas (colored) and Twenty-ninth Iowa charged upon and captured the enemy's guns, three in number. The enemy, driven at every point, now opportunely gave us a few moments' time in which to replenish our supply of ammunition. This was brought up from the rear by mounted troopers, my own escort assisting.

I had determined now to withdraw my forces still nearer the river, as opportunity might offer, but before I was able to effect the movement brisk firing in the front assured me that the enemy was again advancing. At first the firing seemed to be heaviest on the right, but soon it extended along the whole line and for three-quarters of an hour the roar of musketry was incessant. Early in this assault Brigadier-General Rice, ever in the front, was wounded in the ankle, and compelled to leave the field, the command of the brigade devolving upon Col. C. E. Salomon, of the Ninth Wisconsin, who hereafter led the brigade, and by his presence and personal disregard of danger gave great encouragement to his men. Bravely did our troops maintain their ground, never once wavering, never once yielding. I confess that I had not a little anxiety as to the result. Every man was engaged, and regiments were sent from one portion of the line to another, wherever their services seemed to be most needed. I sent to the rear to hasten forward General Thayer's troops, but these with the exception of those already engaged were across the river, and could not be brought forward in time to be of assistance. Our men, however, forgot that they were tired, forgot that they were hungry, forgot that [they] were outnumbered, only remembering that they were ordered to hold their ground. This they held, repulsing the enemy at every point, inflicting fearful damage, capturing three guns, as before stated, several prisoners, and three colors; two of these were taken by the Fiftieth Indiana and one by the Ninth Wisconsin. The Forty-third Illinois pursued the enemy through the bottom quite to the base of the ridge. At 12 o'clock firing ceased. Learning from prisoners that the enemy was continually receiving re-enforcements, I determined to withdraw nearer the river, where my lines would be shorter and my flanks still better protected. At this juncture the major-general commanding arrived in person on the field and approved my plan. I therefore proceeded to withdraw my forces, slowly and in good order, collecting my dead and wounded, bringing away as many as possible, and leaving the others, in charge of a surgeon and attendants, at the house which had been used as field hospital. The crossing of the river was effected without further molestation. For further details of the parts taken by different regiments in this battle, reference is made to the full and

able reports of my brigade commanders, which are herewith forwarded. Our losses were severe. Brigadier-General Rice, as before stated, was severely wounded in the foot. Colonel Mackey, Thirty-third Iowa, was shot through the arm, breaking the bone above the elbow. Colonel Adams, commanding the brigade from General Thayer's division, was wounded in the arm, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hayes, Twelfth Kansas, in the thigh. The whole loss in my division is as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
General officers	.....	1	.....	1
Commissioned officers	.....	20	.....	20
Enlisted men	63	392	45	500
Total	63	413	45	521

I have no report of the loss in the regiments from General Thayer's command. The enemy's loss greatly exceeded our own and is estimated to be at least three to our one. They lost 2 brigadier-generals killed on the field, besides many field and line officers. The enemy was commanded by General E. Kirby Smith in person, and from the best information I can obtain numbered 20,000 men. The fact that after we had retired the enemy sent a flag of truce to the battle-field is conclusive evidence that they acknowledge us victorious. Our forces engaged did not exceed 4,000 men, and I cannot too much commend their bravery and heroic endurance. Officers and men alike did their whole duty. I take pleasure in adding my approval to the commendations made by brigade commanders. Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice merits special mention, not only for conspicuous gallantry, cool and correct judgment in action, but also for his continual personal attention to his command. During the entire expedition his services have been invaluable, and it is not without reluctance that I am obliged to part with him, even temporarily. My thanks are due, and I commend to you the members of my staff for their untiring energy, their bravery and devotion to our cause. Accompanying this I hand you a list* of their names. They have served me well and faithfully, and I shall ever retain a lively personal interest in their welfare.

The first part of the march from Saline River to Little Rock was through a quicksand bottom; men and animals were completely worn out, and it was impossible to bring through the entire train. Much property was necessarily destroyed; otherwise there were no incidents of importance. My division entered Little Rock May 3, at noon, having been absent just five weeks. During this time we marched nearly or quite 300 miles, much of the way through a country quite destitute of any improved roads. The labors devolving

* Not found; but the division return for April, 1864, bears the names of the following staff officers: Maj. Calvert C. White, acting assistant inspector-general and chief of staff; Maj. George W. Burchard, aide-de-camp; Sylvester H. Sawyers, surgeon-in-chief; Capt. Anton Blocki, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. James Christian, commissary of subsistence; Capt. Gustave Stange, chief of artillery; Lieut. Gustavus Jacobson, acting assistant quartermaster; Lieut. Hugo Koch, assistant commissary of musters; Lieut. James B. Schrom, aide-de-camp; Lieut. Joseph Fuess, aide-de-camp; Lieut. Hugo Friedrich, chief of ambulance; Lieut. Robert C. Berry, ordnance officer.

upon the pioneer corps of my division have been incessant. They have worked night and day, and I know not of any body of men connected with the army entitled to greater credit than they.

I have the honor to inclose herewith tabular statements of the effective strength with which I left Little Rock, and the losses sustained by regiments in the different skirmishes and actions. From these it will be seen that my division left Little Rock numbering 5,226 officers and men, and that its aggregate loss in killed, wounded, and missing has been 1,775.

I have the honor to remain, your most obedient servant,

F. SALOMON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Arkansas.

[Inclosure.]

Return of Casualties in the Third Division, Seventh Army Corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. F. Salomon, in the campaign in Southwest Arkansas, from March 23, 1864, until May 3, 1864.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.	Date.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.		
50th Indiana		4	1	11		4	20	April 2.
29th Iowa		4	3	14		4	25	Do.
9th Wisconsin				1		11	12	Do.
Voegele's battery				1			1	Do.
43d Illinois				1			1	April 3.
40th Iowa				2			2	Do.
27th Wisconsin		3		3			6	Do.
43d Indiana				4			4	April 4.
29th Iowa				1			1	Do.
36th Iowa				17			17	Do.
Stange's battery				3			3	Do.
43d Illinois				1			1	April 10.
33d Iowa		1					1	Do.
40th Iowa				5			5	Do.
27th Wisconsin		1		3			4	Do.
Vaughn's battery			1	5			6	Do.
50th Indiana		1					1	April 11.
29th Iowa				1			1	Do.
33d Iowa				1			1	April 12.
Stange's battery				3			3	April 15.
40th Iowa						2	2	April 18.
9th Wisconsin		1					1	Do.
Stange's battery						3	3	Do.
43d Illinois						1	1	April 25.
43d Indiana	1	11			10	212	234	Do.
50th Indiana					2	6	8	Do.
33d Iowa						5	5	Do.
36th Iowa	2	6	3	86	18	371	486	Do.
40th Iowa						1	1	Do.
77th Ohio		3		11	12	319	345	Do.
9th Wisconsin		1					1	Do.
28th Wisconsin	1						1	Do.
Stange's battery		1	1			49	51	Do.
43d Illinois		3	1	8			12	April 30.
43d Indiana			2	6			8	Do.
50th Indiana		13	2	69		9	93	Do.
29th Iowa		8	3	81			92	Do.
33d Iowa		9	6	99		9	123	Do.
36th Iowa				8			8	Do.
40th Iowa		6	3	31			40	Do.
77th Ohio		3		13		5	21	Do.
9th Wisconsin		14	1	70			85	Do.
27th Wisconsin		5	1	13		14	33	Do.
General staff			1				1	Do.
Total	4	98	29	572	42	1,030	1,775	

ADDENDA.

*Itinerary of the Third Division, Seventh Army Corps, March 23–May 3.**

The division was reorganized for the expedition, and the brigades were denominated as follows: General S. A. Rice, First Brigade; Col. William E. McLean, Second Brigade; Col. A. Engelmann, Third Brigade.

March 23.—The division left Little Rock, Ark., and arrived in Arkadelphia the 29th, without any remarkable accident. Colonel Engelmann's brigade and the Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, of General Rice's brigade, were temporarily attached to the division on March 19 by order of Maj. Gen. F. Steele, commanding Department of Arkansas.

April 2.—Skirmish at Terre Noir Creek.

April 4.—Skirmish at Little Missouri River.

April 10, 11, *and* 12.—Skirmishes at Prairie D'Ane.

April 15.—Skirmish on White Oak Creek and occupation of Camden.

April 25.—The Second Brigade, escorting an empty train to Pine Bluff, were nearly all taken prisoners.

April 26.—The division resumed march from Camden toward Little Rock.

April 29.—Arrived at Jenkins' Ferry, on Saline River, after skirmishing all the afternoon.

April 30.—The division was attacked at daybreak by General Kirby Smith's forces; defeated the enemy; captured three of his guns; crossed the river and encamped 2 miles from the ford.

May 1.—The division resumed the march toward Little Rock, Ark., from Jenkins' Ferry, and arrived May 3, without any remarkable incident.

No. 6.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Samuel A. Rice, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp on Little Missouri River, Ark., April 5, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 2d of April my command left the camp at Witherspoonville at 8 o'clock, in charge of the supply, pontoon, and brigade trains. The Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, Col. C. E. Salomon commanding, and Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, Lieut. Col. S. T. Wells commanding, with a section of Captain Voegele's battery, were placed in front. The Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, under Major Gibson, was placed at intervals along the train, each company being kept intact under its officers. The Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, under Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr., with a section of Captain Voegele's battery, was placed in the rear. About 12 o'clock the rear guard was attacked at Gentry's Creek by General Shelby's command, some 1,500 strong, with three pieces of artillery. I proceeded at once to the field of action and ordered the Fiftieth Indiana to the rear to re-enforce the Twenty-ninth Iowa. Colonel Benton, on being attacked, immediately deployed his men, and with the artillery engaged the enemy, and

* From returns for March, April, and May.

after repulsing them fell back about half a mile to the summit of the ridge near Terre Noir Creek. Here the artillery was placed in position and line of battle formed in time to meet the enemy. While the firing was going on the Fiftieth Indiana came up to the support of the Twenty-ninth [Iowa]. The enemy on the left of my line took the summit of the hill. I immediately ordered a charge and they were driven back at all points in great confusion and with heavy loss. We then fell back as rapidly as possible in hopes of regaining the train, which in the interval had moved rapidly to the front, and which was menaced by another column reported to be under General Cabell, and which was moving from another direction on the road from Washington. The Fiftieth Indiana during this part of the march took the rear, and were relieved on reaching the road to Camden, by the way of Okolona, by a portion of the Ninth Wisconsin, with the second section of Captain Voegele's battery. About half a mile from this side of the junction of the road the enemy, having been re-enforced, formed line of battle, opened with their artillery, and engaged us again. We rapidly formed line of battle on a ridge, throwing the Ninth Wisconsin on the left, the Fiftieth Indiana on the right, with the Twenty-ninth Iowa in reserve, and a section of artillery in the center commanding the road. The engagement only lasted some thirty minutes, when the enemy were again driven back with a heavy loss and made no further attempts to reach our trains. This was about 6 o'clock in the evening. I proceeded with my command without any further engagement, and rejoined the residue of your command at Okolona at 9.30 p. m.

From 12 m. to 6 p. m. there was more or less skirmishing most of the time, and owing to the length of the train, which was some 3 miles, it made its protection a matter of serious difficulty. The officers and soldiers of my command behaved with great coolness and bravery. The Thirty-third Iowa, under Major Gibson, though not engaged, had an important and dangerous duty to perform, and did it well.

The officers and soldiers of all the regiments of my command met my highest expectations. Captain Voegele with his battery did good execution. My loss was 8 killed, 32 wounded, 23 missing; total, 63. I inclose you regimental and battery reports, which will give you the full details of the part taken by each in the series of engagements. I also inclose a complete list of casualties.*

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. A. RICE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., 3d Div., 7th Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Camden, Ark., April 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my command in the various series of engagements since the action on the Little Missouri at Elkin's Ferry on the 4th instant. On the 10th instant my command met the enemy on the edge of Prairie D'Ane, where, under your order, I formed line of battle on the left of Engelmann's brigade and advanced, flanking the enemy's right, at the same time pouring in a heavy fire of artil-

* Nominal list omitted.

lery from Voegele's battery. The well-directed fire of the battery, together with the advance of the troops, soon drove the enemy from the field. I camped during the night on the edge of the prairie under cover of the rising ground. The enemy during the night attempted to shell our camps and draw the fire of our artillery. I ordered Captain Voegele not to reply. On the 11th, in compliance with your orders, I moved my command across the prairie to engage the enemy. We were on the left of the line, and my troops moved in double column at deploying intervals, with a regiment in reserve. After coming within range of the enemy's artillery, we were halted under your orders, as the day was too far advanced to make the assault that evening. Under cover of night our troops were again withdrawn to a more secure and better position. At 5 o'clock the ensuing morning my troops, under your order, formed the right and Engelmann's brigade your left. Preceded by a heavy body of skirmishers, who engaged small parties of the enemy, we proceeded across Prairie D'Ane, and soon were beyond the enemy's works, which they had been compelled to evacuate in consequence of the able manner in which the attack was planned and executed by your division and the other divisions of the army. On the 14th, my brigade was ordered to move to White Oak Creek, and, in conjunction with a brigade of cavalry, proceed as soon as possible to Camden. We reached White Oak Creek about 8 p. m., reported to General Carr, and encamped for the night. Early the next morning, in conjunction with his cavalry, we proceeded on the road to Camden; our skirmishers and those of the cavalry were in front. Near the junction of the middle Washington and Camden road we came upon the enemy's skirmishers. Our skirmishers, with those of the cavalry, with occasional firing from the mountain howitzers, drove the enemy some 2 miles, when they opened upon us with five pieces of artillery. Captain Stange immediately brought his battery into position. I formed the Thirty-third Iowa on the right, Twenty-ninth Iowa on the left, the other portions of my command in reserve, and sent out sharpshooters to pick off their cannoneers, together with heavy bodies of skirmishers, on the right and left of our line, to feel the enemy's position and draw their fire, if possible. General Carr had ordered the cavalry on becoming engaged to immediately form on the flanks and engage the enemy. About an hour after the cannonading opened, having learned that the cavalry, owing to the character of the ground, had been unable to form on the flanks, I ordered the Ninth Wisconsin, under Colonel Salomon, to turn the left flank of the enemy, and General Carr ordered the cavalry to co-operate in the movement. The enemy soon retreated. We proceeded then to Camden, skirmishing nearly all the way, and subject occasionally to a short fire of artillery.

I append a complete list* of casualties in the various actions. The officers and soldiers of my command have done their duty faithfully and well. To individualize some would be doing injustice to others. I take pleasure in referring to the invaluable aid afforded by all the officers of my staff during the entire campaign.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. A. RICE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 4 enlisted men killed and 15 enlisted men wounded.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *May* 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my command during the recent campaign in the southwestern part of Arkansas: We left Little Rock on the 23d of March and arrived by easy marches with the army at Arkadelphia on the 29th. On the 2d of April my command was assigned to the duty of guarding the supply train of the army. As my rear guard was passing a ravine near Terre Noir Creek, on the Arkadelphia and Washington road, Shelby's brigade attacked it, with the intention of overpowering it and cutting off our train. I had but one regiment in the rear, the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, numbering about 540 men, with one section of Voegele's battery. Colonel Benton, commanding this regiment, held the enemy's entire force in check until I arrived in the rear, when, seeing the condition of affairs, I immediately sent for the Fiftieth Indiana, which was at the head of the train, about 4 miles farther on. The train, with the Thirty-third Iowa divided up among it, moved on, and was soon in a position to be safe from any attacks. After the arrival of the Fiftieth Indiana I formed my line and received the attack of the enemy, and repulsed him, with severe loss. I then moved toward the train, stopping wherever I was pressed too hard, and forming my line repeatedly repulsed their onsets. After falling back in this way about 4 miles I found a detachment of four companies of the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry and a section of artillery guarding the Washington road until I should come up. This detachment of the Ninth Wisconsin was placed in the rear, and we moved on the Elkin's Ferry road. After we had turned down this road the enemy made a most determined and vigorous assault, but were repulsed by the Ninth Wisconsin and Fiftieth Indiana, and troubled us no more. I have already made full report of this action.

On the 4th of April Marmaduke, with a large force of cavalry, attacked McLean's brigade on the south side of the Little Missouri River. Under your orders two regiments of my brigade moved across to McLean's assistance. Having been directed by you to support McLean, I conferred with him in order to ascertain his exact position, so that my troops could be properly disposed. I formed my command with two companies of the Twenty-ninth Iowa in the rear of the Thirty-sixth Iowa, the other eight companies on the right. The Ninth Wisconsin was held in reserve on the north side of Howard's Creek. At this time I saw that Stange's battery, of McLean's brigade, was in direct range of the enemy's sharpshooters, and I took the responsibility to order it to move beyond Howard's Creek, where its fire would be equally effective, and at the same time the battery would be safe. The forces under my command continued in this position until the close of the engagement. On the 10th of April my brigade again met the enemy on Prairie D'Ane, where a severe skirmish ensued, in which the rebel forces were driven from their position. On the 11th of April we moved out with the rest of your command on Prairie D'Ane and offered battle, but the enemy retired to his fortifications across the prairie, and the attack was not made, owing to the lateness of the hour. On the next day we moved out to attack the enemy's works, but after a skirmish we found that they were evacuated. April 15, my brigade was ordered to take the advance to move into Camden, information having been received that the enemy was trying to reach and reoccupy that place. I came

up to the rebel rear 15 miles from Camden, and, assisted by a detachment of 250 skirmishers from General Carr's cavalry, fought them to within 3 miles of Camden, where they turned off the road. The rest of the march was without interruption. On the 26th of April the army set out on its return to Little Rock. My entire brigade, with the artillery, crossed the pontoon bridge in forty minutes. I arrived at Jenkins' Ferry, on the Saline, on the evening of the 29th. During the evening the enemy skirmished with your rear, under Colonel Engelmann. You directed me at dark to send one regiment to report to Colonel Engelmann. The Thirty-third Iowa was accordingly sent, and was placed by him half a mile beyond his camp, on the Princeton road. During the night the trains were constantly engaged in crossing the Saline River. The terrible condition of the roads, and a heavy, continuous rain made this operation necessarily a slow one, and morning found a large part of the train still on the south side of the river.

At daylight I went to the rear to see the Thirty-third Iowa, and finding them too far from support, I ordered Colonel Mackey to bring in his skirmishers, preparatory to falling back, and sent to you for permission to bring the regiment back to the remainder of my brigade. As soon as Colonel Mackey's skirmishers commenced to move, the enemy commenced the attack. I then immediately ordered the Fiftieth Indiana up to their support, forming that regiment on the left. Receiving orders from you to fall back still farther, I formed a new line with the Ninth Wisconsin and Twenty-ninth Iowa about half a mile in the rear of my first line and withdrew my first line behind it. The Thirty-third Iowa, which had been without fires all night, was now permitted to go to the rear to get breakfast. I then formed the Fiftieth en echelon on the left and crossed the detachment of the Second Brigade over the creek on my right with two companies of the Twenty-ninth Iowa. My line had barely been formed and skirmishers deployed when the enemy renewed the attack. Their efforts seemed at first principally directed to my right flank. They were repulsed in this attack, but immediately made a determined assault on my left. I now sent the Thirty-third Iowa to the left of the Fiftieth Indiana. The assault of the enemy was heavy and determined, and they succeeded in turning the left flank of the Thirty-third, driving them some 250 yards. At this juncture the Twelfth Kansas Infantry came forward and I moved them up to the left of the Thirty-third. They came up with a cheer and drove the enemy before them. The Thirty-third then advanced, and at the same time my whole line was moved up nearly 300 yards beyond its former position. The enemy now again began to turn his attention to my right and threw a force across Toxie Creek, which covered my right, and moved down through the dense woods and got a raking fire on my right. The Second Kansas (colored) came up at this time, and I threw them forward in advance of the Ninth Wisconsin and Twenty-ninth Iowa to relieve those regiments, as their ammunition was nearly all expended. The Forty-third Illinois had moved up, under your orders, to support the troops on the right of the creek. The Twenty-seventh Wisconsin had also moved up to support my left. The enemy now brought up a section of artillery and furiously renewed the attack from the open field in front of my right. After a long, desperate struggle he was repulsed and the Second Kansas Colored Infantry and Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry moved forward and took his guns. These two guns, with their caissons,

were brought off. With the exception of brisk skirmishing, the firing lulled for a while, during which time my troops replenished their cartridge-boxes and prepared for another attack, which was expected to follow. The enemy now made a feint on my right and immediately followed it by an assault on the left. The Fiftieth Indiana and Thirty-third Iowa, flanked and supported by the Twelfth Kansas, four companies of the Fortieth Iowa, and the detachment of the Second Brigade (which had some time before been moved from the right to that point), vigorously poured their fire into the advancing columns of the enemy. As this fight was going on while I was moving to the left of my line I was struck by a ball in the foot and compelled to leave the field, and from this time I know nothing of the engagement from personal observation. After I left the field the fight continued nearly three-quarters of an hour, at the end of which time the rebel forces received their last repulse and drew off at 12 o'clock, leaving us masters of the field. Owing to the rain and spongy nature of the ground I did not bring my artillery into action, and to the infantry alone is due all the glory of this well-fought battle. Three colors were taken from the enemy by my command—2 were taken by the Fiftieth Indiana, and 1 by the Ninth Wisconsin.

I take the highest pleasure in referring to the gallant conduct of the officers and men of my entire command, from the time of our first action on the Terre Noir down to the close of the bloody battle of Jenkins' Ferry. Colonel Salomon, commanding Ninth Wisconsin; Colonel Benton, commanding Twenty-ninth Iowa; Colonel Mackey, commanding Thirty-third Iowa; Lieutenant-Colonel Wells, commanding Fiftieth Indiana, and Captain Voegele, commanding my battery, all did their duty nobly and were always at their posts. Colonel Mackey received a severe wound in the arm while leading his men in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, and Colonel Benton and Lieutenant-Colonel Wells had their horses killed under them. I feel it my duty to make honorable mention of Colonel Adams, commanding a brigade of General Thayer's division, who reported to me for orders with the Twelfth Kansas Infantry and Second Kansas Colored Infantry. He did his duty well and was wounded in the arm while near the line of the Second Kansas. Colonel Crawford, of the Second Kansas, behaved with the most marked gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel Hayes, of the Twelfth Kansas, distinguished himself by his coolness and bravery, and received a dangerous wound in the thigh. Captain Darnall, of the Forty-third Indiana, commanding detachment of Second Brigade, behaved well and was severely wounded while cheering his men. A squadron of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Captain Campbell, rendered very efficient service in protecting my left flank. Colonel Salomon took command of the brigade after I was taken from the field. I take special pleasure in this connection in referring to the officers of my staff, Captain Townsend, acting assistant inspector-general; Lieutneant Lacey, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenants Duncan and Baylies, my aides, all displayed the highest soldierly qualities. Captain Townsend was killed on the march while accompanying the train escorted by the Second Brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Drake. Lieutenant Duncan had his horse killed under him on the Terre Noir, and Lieutenant Lacey's horse was wounded by a shell from the enemy on Prairie D'Ane. It is with pleasure that I refer to Lieutenant Wilson, acting assistant quartermaster, whose conduct on the entire ex-

pedition showed that he is eminently qualified for the position he fills. I transmit herewith the reports of regimental commanders and a complete list of casualties.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. A. RICE,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. A. BLÖCKI,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADDENDA.

Itinerary of First Brigade, Third Division, April 2–30.†

April 2.—Engagement with Shelby's command.
April 4.—Skirmish on the Little Missouri.
April 10, 11, *and* 12.—Skirmished on the Prairie D'Ane.
April 15.—Brisk skirmish with three brigades of rebel cavalry.
April 30.—It bore a prominent part in the bloody battle at Jenkins' Ferry, Saline River.

During the month marched 235 miles, fought five battles, and was engaged in five skirmishes.

No. 7.

Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel T. Wells, Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.

HDQRS. FIFTIETH INDIANA INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
In the Field, April 3, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have to report that on yesterday, my regiment being ordered to the support of the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, which was engaging the enemy at the rear of the wagon train, I hastened to the scene of action with all possible speed and there reported to General Rice, who ordered me to place my regiment in position immediately in the rear of the Twenty-ninth, which was at once done and the flanks well covered with skirmishers. The formation was scarcely completed when a fierce charge by cavalry was made against the left wing, with the evident intention of capturing our artillery, which was posted in the center. The Twenty-ninth Iowa gradually retiring over the crest of the hill as a decoy, the charge was received at short range, and repulsed with fearful loss to the enemy, when he immediately retired from our front. Our forces being ordered to fall back on the wagon train, I was ordered to cover the rear, which was effectually done for 2 miles, though with constant skirmishing, when I was relieved by the Ninth Wisconsin. Shortly after the enemy made another attack, when my regiment was ordered to the rear where a sharp engagement was going on with the Ninth. I immediately changed front to the rear and charged upon the enemy on our right and drove them from the field. I was then ordered to resume the march. The regiment had scarcely got into the road when a charge was made by the enemy on our left in

* Embodied in table, p. 692.
† From return for April.

direction of our artillery. Our front was again changed to the rear and the enemy again handsomely repulsed, when he shortly left off the pursuit. The first charge of the enemy on our left was repulsed by Companies A, under Captain McCoy, B, under Captain Peck, and G, under Captain Carothers, all under Major Attkisson. At each subsequent attack the whole regiment was engaged. Both officers and men, without exception, displayed the utmost coolness and courage. The casualties of the day were 4 killed, 11 wounded, and 6 missing.

Very respectfully,

S. T. WELLS,
Lieut. Col. Fiftieth Indiana Vols., Comdg. Regt.

Lieut. JOHN F. LACEY,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 1st Brig., 3d Div., 7th Army Corps.

No. 8.

Report of Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr., Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-NINTH IOWA INFANTRY,
Camp on Little Missouri River, April 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 2d instant I was assigned to the duty of guarding the rear of our supply train. My command, consisting of the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry and one section of Captain Voegele's battery, was formed in the following order: One company immediately in rear of the train as an advance guard, followed by the battery; the main body of the regiment, consisting of seven companies, two companies as a rear guard, and a sergeant and 8 men in the extreme rear. While passing a narrow, muddy defile, caused by a small stream 1 mile east of Terre Noir Creek, a body of Shelby's cavalry, supposed to be 1,200 strong, made a sudden dash upon our rear guards. The guards, supported by our left wing, rallied promptly, opened a brisk fire, and momentarily checked the advance of the enemy, which enabled us to pass the defile and deploy our forces on either side of the road. I ordered the battery into position and opened fire on the enemy, which was instantly replied to with vigor and accuracy. After a brief and spirited contest, the enemy fell back. I then advanced to Terre Noir Creek, and after crossing it again opened fire with the battery and a volley from the rear guard. Believing that the enemy was endeavoring to flank us. I withdrew my forces rapidly to the high ground 1 mile in advance. Just before my advance reached the highest elevation the enemy again attacked our rear, but was held in check by our skirmishers until I succeeded in getting the battery into position and deploying the main body of my forces on the crown of the hill. At this point the enemy made a desperate charge, but after a hotly contested action of an hours' duration he was driven back in confusion, and evidently with considerable loss. During the engagement Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice, with the Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Wells commanding (whose conduct on the occasion deserves the highest commendation), arrived and assumed command. My command was now ordered to the front, and was subsequently halted and deployed twice as a reserve, but was not again engaged with the enemy.

I am under special obligations to Maj. C. B. Shoemaker and Adjutant Joseph Lyman, of my command (Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson was absent on sick leave), for their prompt and efficient co-operation from the commencement to the close of the series of engagements in which we took part. Great credit is also due to my line officers and men for the readiness with which they conformed to the embarrassing circumstances by which we were surrounded, and the unfaltering determination with which they resisted the approach of the enemy. Captain Voegele, with his battery, rendered us valuable services whenever opportunity offered. The total loss to my command was 4 enlisted men killed, 4 enlisted men missing, 3 officers and 16 enlisted men wounded; aggregate, 27.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS H. BENTON, JR.,
Colonel Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, Commanding.

Lieut. JOHN F. LACEY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 9.

Report of Maj. Hiram D. Gibson, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, of operations March 23–April 19.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD IOWA INFANTRY VOLS.,
Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with general orders from headquarters First Brigade, I herewith transmit you the following report pertaining to the Thirty-third Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, during the recent campaign, including list of casualties, &c.: Prior to the arrival of our forces at Prairie D'Ane, the part taken in any engagement by my regiment was entirely unimportant. On arriving at Prairie D'Ane I was ordered to form line of battle and move to the left of the Fiftieth Indiana, which was done. I was then ordered to form column by division, and in that order I moved forward onto the prairie. While crossing a slough in the timber joining the prairie, a shell from the enemy's gun exploded near the regiment, killing 1 man and breaking several guns. On reaching the open ground I again deployed, sending forward two companies as skirmishers, with instructions to move steadily forward, which they did, driving the enemy before them, the regiment moving to their support. In this order I moved forward till the regiment rested where the enemy's artillery first opened fire. It then being dark, the skirmishers were ordered to rest in place, and the regiment retired 200 yards to unexposed ground, and bivouacked. At 11 p. m. the enemy dashed upon the skirmish line, but was repulsed without injury to us. The transactions of the following day are unimportant.

On the morning of the 13th of April we moved, in connection with the entire forces, through and to the west of Prairie D'Ane, our skirmishers steadily driving the enemy before them. On approaching their works on the Camden and Washington road the enemy hastily withdrew. From this time till the morning of the 15th nothing worthy of note transpired. On the 15th day of April my regiment was the advance infantry. Two companies were deployed as skir-

mishers on either side of the road, and having moved forward 2 miles, were fired upon by the enemy. The skirmishers moved forward, driving them, assisted by a howitzer, until they came in range of the enemy's artillery, which was opened upon us, wounding 4 men. My regiment supported the Second Missouri Battery* on the right. Having taken this position, I sent forward three sharpshooters from each company to assist the skirmishers and annoy the enemy's gunners. After an engagement of two hours the enemy withdrew from his position, after which the march was resumed. At about 2 miles distance we were again fired on. While awaiting orders a shell from the enemy's gun burst near my regiment, dangerously wounding 1 man. A sharp skirmish was kept up for 2½ miles, when the enemy withdrew from our front. Our entire loss in killed and wounded when we reached Camden amounted to 1 killed and 4 wounded. I was relieved of my command on the 19th of April, while in camp at Camden, Colonel Mackey having arrived at the regiment.

H. D. GIBSON,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. JOHN F. LACEY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 10.

Report of Col. Cyrus H. Mackey, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, of operations April 19–*May* 3.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD IOWA INFANTRY VOLS.,
Little Rock, Ark., May 6, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor herewith to transmit you the following report of the engagement in which the Thirty-third Regiment Iowa Infantry took part from the time of my taking command at Camden, Ark., until its arrival at Little Rock, including a list of casualties, &c.: I arrived at Camden on the 19th day of April, and immediately took command of my regiment, at this time 600 strong. Nothing of particular interest took place from the time of the evacuation of Camden until my arrival at Saline River.

On the evening of the 29th, at 6.30 p. m., I was ordered to the rear on the Camden road to support Colonel Engelmann's brigade, an attack being anticipated during the night. I stood at arms during the entire night, the enemy making no particular demonstration, although in speaking distance. Night very dark and raining most of the time.

About 4 a. m. on the 30th, I received orders that as soon as the Forty-third Illinois Infantry, on my left, was withdrawn I should retire about three-quarters of a mile toward the river and take position covering the passage of the troops while crossing. This movement I executed without being discovered by the enemy. This position I occupied half an hour, when the enemy made his appearance. The skirmishers immediately engaged them, holding them in check for half an hour, when I was relieved by the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry. I marched my command to a new position, 1 mile in the

* Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

direction of the crossing. In twenty minutes the engagement became general, and I was ordered to the support of the Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, on the left. From this time until the close of the battle the regiment was almost continually engaged. As to the conduct of both officers and men of my command I cannot speak in terms too high. To attempt distinction would be injustice to my command, as all did their duty nobly. A short time before the close of the action I received a wound in my right arm, which compelled me to quit the field, the command of the regiment devolving upon Captain Boydston, Company A, who at the close of the engagement marched the regiment off in good order. The regiment arrived in camp at Little Rock, Ark., on the 3d day of May, 1864. Nothing of importance transpired during the remainder of our march.

It would be doing great injustice to the enlisted men of my command to fail to notice the manner in which they endured the fatigue and privations of the march, the rations being exhausted on the 29th of April. For the operations of the regiment prior to my command, reference is made to the report of Maj. H. D. Gibson, herewith transmitted.

With the highest respect, your obedient servant,

C. H. MACKEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. JOHN F. LACEY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Extent of casualties: Killed, enlisted men, 8. Wounded, commissioned officers, 6; enlisted men, 96. Missing, enlisted men, 13. Total loss, 123.

No. 11.

Report of Col. Charles E. Salomon, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, of skirmish at Antoine.

HDQRS. NINTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
In the Field, Okolona, Ark., April 3, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 2d instant my regiment had the advance of the rear brigade of the Third Division, Seventh Army Corps. I received an order from the commanding general to protect the road with four companies of my regiment at a point where the road branches off from the Washington road to another road leading to Camden, and to direct the other three companies of my regiment to guard the supply and pontoon trains, consisting of over 200 wagons, moving along said Camden road. I also stationed at this point two pieces of artillery of Captain Voegele's battery, under the command of Lieut. D. Veidt. At about 5 p. m. the Fiftieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, being in the rear of the column, arrived at this point hotly pursued by the enemy. I was ordered by General Rice to take the rear with my four companies, H, E, G, and B, and two pieces of artillery. As soon as the column moved forward I was attacked by a heavy force of cavalry; I retreated, fighting till we arrived at the first hill on the road, about one-half mile from the place, where I took the rear. Here I put the two pieces of

artillery in position and deployed my four companies to right and left of said two pieces of artillery, awaiting the enemy. The enemy dismounted his cavalry, deployed, and attacked my command in strong force; he was supported by two pieces of artillery, which fired shot, shell, and canister. After fifteen minutes' fighting, General Rice arrived with the Fiftieth Indiana to support me. The enemy was then repulsed and fell back. We resumed our march in the rear of the column, and were re-enforced by the three other companies of my regiment, A, D, and I, which arrived in the rear at about 6 p. m. The enemy continued to attack and pursue us until dark, and once more when we were attacked by an overwhelming force the Fiftieth Indiana was ordered to our support, and bravely assisted in repelling the enemy. After dark the enemy ceased to pursue us, and marching on we arrived in camp near Okolona at 10 p. m. I am proud to say that all officers and men under my command have done their duty. My force consisted of seven companies of infantry, numbering 17 officers and 413 enlisted men.

My loss* during the engagement is as follows:

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. SALOMON,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. John F. Lacey,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 12.

Report of Capt. Martin Voegele, Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, commanding battery, of skirmish at Antoine.

Hdqrs. Company F, Ninth Wisconsin Regt. Vols.,
April 5, 1864.

General: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 21, I have the honor to submit to your notice the following report of the part taken by my battery during the action of the 2d instant: Early in the morning I was ordered to the rear with one section to assist in covering the train. About 4 miles from our late camping-ground we were suddenly attacked by the enemy's cavalry, with two pieces of artillery. I immediately took position and dispersed them. They again followed, and I was compelled to unlimber at every commanding position I could occupy, and always keeping them sufficiently in check. Leaving the military road to Camden to the left, I relieved the first section with the second, which assisted in covering the retreat during the remainder of the day. Altogether I fired 138 rounds of ammunition. Loss, 1 man slightly wounded, and 1 horse.

I have the honor to be, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

MARTIN VOEGELE,
Capt. Co. F, Ninth Regt. Wisconsin Vols., Comdg. Batty.

[Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice.]

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* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 enlisted man wounded and 13 enlisted men missing, 2 of whom were wounded.

No. 13

Reports of Col. William E. McLean, Forty-third Indiana Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of operations April 2–20.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
Camp No. 11, *near Elkin's Ford, Ark., April* 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the following report of the operations of the brigade under my command from the time of its arrival at Elkin's Ford on the Little Missouri River to this date, embracing the engagements of the 3d and 4th instant at that place with two brigades from Marmaduke's division, under command of Generals Cabell and Greene. Having been notified by Brigadier-General Salomon on the afternoon of the 2d instant, while upon the march from Spoonville, of the importance of taking and holding Elkin's Ford, I made a forced march with my command, crossing the river after dark, preceded by a squadron of cavalry sent forward as advance pickets. One regiment of my brigade (the Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, Col. William B. Mason commanding), and one section of artillery from my battery, were detached after leaving Okolona by order of Major-General Steele to support the cavalry, supposed at that time to be engaging the enemy at Antoine. The remainder of my forces, consisting of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, Col. C. W. Kittredge commanding; Forty-third Indiana Infantry, Maj. W. W. Norris commanding, and Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery, Lieutenant Peetz commanding, encamped near the bank of the river. The day after my arrival occasional firing along our picket-lines and skirmishing in front convinced me that the enemy were on the alert, either for the purpose of watching the movements of the army, of which my brigade constituted the advance, or if possible, by a direct attack upon me in overpowering numbers, to cut me off before re-enforcements could be obtained from across the river.

Early on the morning of the 3d instant I ordered Major Norris, Forty-third Indiana, to proceed with four companies of that regiment to the front to reconnoiter the position of the enemy, deploy the men as skirmishers, and support the cavalry pickets. He soon succeeded in discovering the position of the advanced pickets and skirmishers of the enemy, drove them back for some distance, pressing them so closely that, the retreat of a number of them being cut off, 16 came into our lines and surrendered. On the same evening, being satisfied that the enemy were in our front in force and designed attacking us during the night or early in the morning, I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, Thirty-sixth Iowa, to proceed with three companies from that regiment and three from the Forty-third Indiana to a position on the main road leading from the ford immediately in our front, to deploy his men on the right and left of the road, watch the movements of the enemy, and resist their approach as long as was prudent, and retire to the reserves when they approached in force. One section of artillery, under Lieutenant Peetz, was planted so as to fully command the road and the leading approaches on our right and left.

At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, the enemy approached in force and commenced an attack on the advanced companies of Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, who resisted them gallantly for near two hours,

being well supported by the artillery of Lieutenant Peetz. The report of Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, giving a detailed statement of the disposition of his forces and skirmishes with the enemy, is submitted herewith. The capture by his force early in the morning of a rebel lieutenant, an aide-de-camp upon the staff of General Marmaduke, confirmed me in the belief that that general was near us in person with a large portion of his division. After a very lively skirmish of near two hours, the enemy having discovered the position of our battery and replying to it vigorously with four pieces of artillery, our pickets and advanced companies were driven back upon their infantry reserves. The enemy (since ascertained to be General Cabell's brigade, 1,600 strong) charged with a yell upon our left for the purpose of flanking us and capturing our battery. Their approach from the cover of the timber was met gallantly by two or three well-directed volleys from the Thirty-sixth Iowa. Colonel Kittredge's report of the part taken by his regiment in resisting this charge of the enemy is herewith forwarded, together with the report of Major Norris.

Immediately after the charge and repulse of the enemy the re-enforcement sent for by me arrived, consisting of the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry and Ninth Wisconsin Infantry, of Brigadier-General Rice's brigade, but before they were put in position by him the enemy withdrew, not, however, until a grape-shot from their battery had inflicted a slight wound upon the general's head, from the effects of which I am gratified to say he has recovered.

In looking upon the results of this engagement and the great disparity of numbers of the forces engaged, I cannot but regard this encounter as one reflecting the highest praise upon the coolness and unflinching courage of the men of my command, all of whom acquitted themselves well. My entire list of casualties (most of which are slight wounds) will not exceed 30, while the new-made graves of 18 of the enemy are in sight of our present encampment, and they confess to a loss of more than 50 in wounded. My especial thanks are due Col. C. W. Kittredge, Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, Maj. W. W. Norris, and Lieutenant Peetz, for their prompt co-operation and gallant disposition of their forces; and also to my personal staff, Capt. W. S. Magill, Capt. W. E. Whitridge, Lieut. E. P. Pearce, and Lieut. Charles J. Eagler, for the assistance they rendered me in carrying orders under the fire of the enemy.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. McLEAN,

Colonel Forty-third Indiana Infy., Comdg. Second Brigade.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,

Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the participation of the brigade under my command in the events of the present expedition since my last report of the 6th instant, which embraced operations to that date: On the 7th instant, three days after the battle of Elkin's Ford, this brigade moved on the road and encamped with the residue of the forces composing this army upon the Cornelius plantation (awaiting the co-operation of

the division under command of Brigadier-General Thayer), where the enemy had erected fortifications upon the hills extending over a circuit of near 3 miles, and which had been evacuated by them on the evening previous to our arrival. On the 10th instant, General Thayer's division having arrived, our forces proceeded to Prairie D'Ane, a distance of 6 miles, at the edge of which the enemy's skirmishers awaited us, supported by artillery, and commenced a vigorous attack upon the advance. A lively skirmish here ensuing the rebel skirmishers fell back, withdrawing their artillery, and our forces advanced until our line of skirmishers was established on the prairie, a mile from the timber. It being now dark and our forces having a good position we halted for the night; until 11 o'clock heavy cannonading and brisk skirmishing continued with slight intervals.

Upon the day of this march this brigade was charged with guarding the general supply and pontoon trains, but at the beginning of the skirmishing the Seventy-seventh Ohio was ordered by me to advance and occupy a position in line on the right of the road, and the Thirty-sixth Iowa, which was posted along the train in detachments by my order, advanced on double-quick a distance of over 2 miles, and was soon posted in position on the left of the road on the prairie. These two regiments remained in line under arms all night. The Forty-third Indiana, which was in rear of the whole train, did not arrive in camp near the prairie until about midnight. My artillery, Company E, Second Missouri Light Artillery, by the order of General Salomon, was rapidly hurried to the front and took position on the extreme right of our line of defense, where it did most excellent service.

On the afternoon of the 11th, it being evident that the enemy were in large force upon our right, I was ordered to take a position in line on the right, and co-operate with the cavalry brigade of Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell. Here my brigade bivouacked the remainder of the day and the following night, sleeping upon their arms. The next day, the army advancing upon the rebel fortifications, this brigade, with one section of artillery (Vaughn's battery), marched in close column in the center between the First and Third Brigades, with orders to support either, as the necessity should require. The enemy's pickets gave way before our line of skirmishers when the general advance took place, and the small remnant of the forces left by them to keep up appearance of resistance soon fled through the woods, leaving their long line of fortifications.

The conduct of the men of the brigade upon the occasion of this advance, with the probability of battle before them, was most admirable. Upon the day of the successful entry of our troops into Camden, my brigade being again charged with the guarding of the general supply and pontoon trains, did not participate in the fight occurring upon that occasion. I take pleasure in reporting that during the whole expedition the conduct and discipline of the men of the brigade has been without exception most excellent, and their willingness to do any duty assigned them, attended with whatever danger, most marked and gratifying.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. McLEAN,

Colonel Forty-third Indiana Infy., Comdg. Second Brigade.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 14.

Report of Maj. Wesley W. Norris, Forty-third Indiana Infantry, of engagement at Elkin's Ferry.

HDQRS. FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLS.,
Camp No. 9, April 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry in the engagements of the 3d and 4th instant: On the morning of the 3d, four companies—Company A, commanded by Lieutenant Harper; Company B, commanded by Captain Darnall; Company F, commanded by Captain Lane, and Company I, commanded by Captain Hall, and all under my immediate command—went to the relief of the cavalry pickets. On arriving at the front and learning the location of the ground and the position of the enemy I deployed my force, Captain Hall on the right, Captain Lane on the left, and Captain Darnall and Lieutenant Harper in the center. The cavalry skirmishers were called in, when I ordered my line of skirmishers to advance. They did so, and the enemy were soon routed from their position and driven before us for the distance of 2 miles, when I was ordered to fall back. My skirmishers pressed the enemy so closely that the retreat of some 15 or 16 was cut off, and they surrendered themselves as prisoners of war to our pickets. On the night of the 3d, five companies of my command were ordered to the front, three to support the cavalry pickets, to-wit, Company C, commanded by Lieutenant Holman; Company E, commanded by Lieutenant Thompson, and Company H, commanded by Lieutenant Cooper, and two companies, to-wit, Company K, commanded by Lieutenant Moore, and Company D, commanded by Captain Brown, to support the batteries. Companies C, E, and H were deployed on the left of artillery, Company H being the center and advance. The attack was made at 6 o'clock in the morning, from which time those companies were engaged with the enemy until 10 o'clock, when they were forced to fall back by a superior force of the enemy. The men and officers fought gallantly. The remaining five companies of my command were held in reserve on the right until about 3 p. m., when I was ordered to take position on the left, which position I took and remained in line during the evening and night of the 4th. A list of casualties has already been forwarded.

I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

W. W. NORRIS,
Major Forty-third Indiana Vol. Infy., Comdg. Regiment.

Col. WILLIAM E. MCLEAN,
Commanding Second Brigade.

No. 15.

Report of Col. Charles W. Kittredge, Thirty-six Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Elkin's Ferry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-SIXTH REGT. IOWA VOL. INFANTRY,
Camp at Elkin's Ford, Ark., April 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 2d instant this regiment crossed the Little Missouri River at the ford known as Elkin's Ford and went into camp upon the south

bank of the river and just to the right of the ford, the Forty-third Indiana Infantry occupying the ground to our left across the road, these regiments being the only part of the army that crossed the river, excepting small cavalry outposts who picketed the grounds to our front, the rest of the army having gone into camp on the north bank of the river and in our rear. On the evening of the 3d instant I received your order to send three companies to the front, with orders to support the cavalry outposts and, if necessary, skirmish with the enemy, holding him in check until a larger force could be sent forward. I ordered Lieut. Col. F. M. Drake to take command of Companies D, G, and A and carry out your instructions, which he immediately did, you strengthening his command soon after with three companies of the Forty-third Indiana Infantry. A copy of his report I have the honor to inclose herewith, from which you will see that he with his small command held the large force of the enemy in check for several hours. About 6 o'clock on the morning of the 4th instant the skirmishers were briskly engaged, and you ordered me to move forward with the seven remaining companies of the regiment. I moved up to the rear of the skirmishers and a little in advance of two pieces of Battery E, Second Missouri Artillery, which I found had been put in position during the night. I rode forward to speak with Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, who was gallantly holding his ground against such immense odds, when a rebel officer was brought in and promptly sent to your headquarters, and who proved to be a member of General Marmaduke's staff. You now came up in person and ordered me to move a little to the rear, which I did, immediately observing that the whole line of skirmishers to the left of the road were giving way and rapidly retreating across an open field in their rear. I now formed in line on the left of the road a little to the rear of the battery, ordering the men to lie down. I received no further orders until the battle was over. The firing now being brisk and the battery fully occupied, handsomely replying to a battery of the enemy which seemed to have secured a very accurate range, I advanced my line of battle a few steps, my right resting directly upon the left of the battery, the men lying down as before, being slightly protected by a rise in the ground directly in front. The enemy were now firing rapidly with artillery and musketry, and I became satisfied they were charging upon the battery, and as they made their appearance in the open ground, I ordered my command to stand up and fire. Our battery now limbered up and retreated across the creek in our rear. I, however, poured in a few well-directed volleys, which sent the enemy back as rapidly as they had advanced a few moments before. The firing now nearly ceased on both sides. I found that Lieutenant-Colonel Drake had gradually and in good order fallen back on the right of the road, nearly parallel with the regiment and just to the front of the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, who were now in line on the right of the road in my rear across the creek, and I ordered him to form his companies in their proper order upon the left of the regiment. The regiment remained upon the field all night, but the enemy had evidently retreated. The officers and men of the regiment behaved gallantly, as they must needs have done to have held in check and finally driven from the field, with the aid of two pieces of artillery a small command of the First Iowa Cavalry and three companies of the Forty-third Indiana Infantry, an enemy 3,000 strong. Lieutenant-Colonel Drake especially deserves honorable

mention for the gallant manner in which he peformed his duties. My casualties were 17 wounded, many severely and some mortally, a list of whom I have already had the honor to transmit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. KITTREDGE,
Colonel Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry.

Col. WILLIAM E. MCLEAN,
Commanding Second Brigade.

No. 16.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Francis M. Drake, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, commanding battalion and Second Brigade.

CAMP THIRTY-SIXTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Near Elkin's Ford, Ark., April 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the detachment under my command in the battle of Elkin's Ford, on the Little Missouri River, Ark., on the 3d and 4th instant: By order of Col. William E. McLean, commanding Second Brigade, about 5 p. m. on the 3d instant, in command of three companies of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry and three companies of the Forty-third Indiana Infantry, I proceeded along the road running perpendicular from the ford through the woods to the front, and took a position about 100 paces in rear of the picket-post on the road, behind a deserted orchard. The picket-post, composed of about 100 men of the First Iowa Cavalry, commanded by Captain McIntyre, I found on my arrival was engaged skirmishing with the advance pickets of the enemy. I immediately went forward among the line of skirmishers until I could observe the enemy's movements, and from close observation soon became satisfied that they were in considerable force, and were covering preparations to attack us next morning. I at once apprised Colonel McLean concerning my apprehensions, who immediately sent to my support Lieutenant Peetz, with a section of light artillery, and ordered me to assume command of all the forces to the front, deploy my men on the right and left of the road, and if attacked, to hold my position as long as I thought prudent, and fall back on the reserves. The cavalry post, now composed of Companies C and D, First Iowa Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenants Ronaldson and Walker (who had at this time relieved Captain McIntyre), covered about 200 paces of our front with cavalry vedettes, and I deployed Companies D, G, and A, Thirty-sixth Iowa, on the right of the road at intervals of 100 paces between companies, making D my center, placed at the road. I deployed Companies E, H, and C, Forty-third Indiana, at same company intervals on the left of the road, the battery taking position about 200 paces in rear of my center, and threw well forward and to my flanks a strong infantry picket. I ordered each company to keep up a few watchers, the balance to sleep on their arms until 4 o'clock next morning, when all should get up and breakfast before daylight. I ordered the cavalry, as soon as attacked, to dismount and send all their horses to the rear. Soon after daylight on the morning of the 4th instant the enemy engaged the cavalry pickets, and almost simultaneously made

a determined effort to turn my left flank. I met them on the left with Companies H and C, deployed as skirmishers, and ordered Company D, Captain Hale, to move forward and deploy to support the cavalry. I immediately discovered the enemy entering the orchard in heavy force in line of battle, and moved forward Companies G and E on a line with D. The engagement was now becoming very warm, and my men were falling wounded on my right and left, but by a very determined effort we finally succeeded in driving back the rebel column into the woods in front of the orchard. I immediately dispatched an orderly to Colonel McLean, informing him we were engaged with about 2,000 of the enemy and calling for re-enforcements. A strong effort was now made by the enemy to turn my right flank, when I moved forward Company A, Captain Porter, deployed to protect it. My whole force was now deployed, covering the enemy's front, and the engagement was general along my entire line. I now called upon Lieutenant Peetz to open upon them with his battery, which he had barely commenced doing when the enemy opened upon us with four field pieces, and for near one hour from this time the engagement on both sides was very severe. With a force of about 300 men we were contending against Generals Cabell and Greene's brigades, commanded by General Marmaduke in person. My officers and men without exception fought with desperation, and we succeeded in checking the enemy, and holding a position about 50 paces in rear of our old line. A lull then ensued of some minutes, taking advantage of which I ordered my line to advance to our old position and take the men's knapsacks, which had been left on the ground where we encamped, now in possession of the enemy. The men went forward, retook their knapsacks, and Company D, Captain Hale, captured while doing so Lieutenant Fackler, an aide-de-camp of General Marmaduke. We were now again in possession of the ground held by us at the commencement of the engagement, and were fully assured from appearances that so far the enemy had received more than he had bargained for.

Fearing the enemy were posting artillery on my flanks to enfilade us or in position to give us a raking cross-fire, I ordered Captain Porter, on my right, and Lieutenant Holman, on my left, to advance a few skirmishers to their front and flank and feel for the enemy. They had not advanced far until they were both engaged. The enemy had posted a piece of artillery in front of each of my flanks, and with a cross-fire and a direct fire from his four pieces of artillery commenced raking the wood with solid shot, grape, and shell, while his combined forces in one continuous line rushed upon us, firing volleys of musketry and yelling like demons. For some time we held a perfect line, falling back slowly, and contesting every inch of ground, expecting support, until my line on the left of the road, being forced into an open field, gave way entirely, and fell back on their reserves. I now determined to hold my position on the right of the road at all hazards until re-enforced. I succeeded in doing so, and after several hours' severe fighting finally repulsed the enemy, but not without considerable loss. About the time my left gave way, Colonel Kittredge took a position with the balance of the Thirty-sixth Iowa in rear of the field, and repulsed the enemy's charge on my left.

During the engagement, which lasted until near noon with my detachment, the cavalry was commanded by Lieutenants Walker, Ronaldson, McCormick, and Dow, First Iowa Cavalry; the artillery

by Lieutenant Peetz, [Battery E,] Second Missouri Light Artillery; Companies A, G, and D, Thirty-sixth Iowa, by Captains Porter, Fee, and Hale, and Lieutenants Baird, Pearson, and Birnbaum; Companies E, H, and C, Forty-third Indiana, by Lieutenants Thompson, Cooper, and Holman; and I cannot but express the highest commendation for the coolness and bravery they exhibited during this terrible and unequal contest, and the men proved themselves all heroes. Privates George Barr and Harvey J. Clingenpeel, Company C, First Iowa Cavalry, acted as my orderlies during the engagement, and were of great service; they are good and brave soldiers. The casualties of my detachment are 1 officer, Lieutenant Dow, slightly wounded in head, and 30 men wounded, 11 of them supposed mortally, several of whom have since died. The proportion is 12 from the Thirty-sixth Iowa, 11 from the First Iowa Cavalry, 4 from the Forty-third Indiana, and 3 from the [Battery E] Second Missouri Light Artillery, a list of which will be reported by regimental commanders.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. DRAKE,
Lieut. Col. 36th Iowa Infy., Comdg. Detach. 2d Brig.

Capt. W. E. WHITRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Marks' Mills, April 25, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 22d day of April, by order of Brigadier-General Salomon, the Second Brigade was detailed to escort a supply train, consisting of 240 Government wagons and a number of sutler and other private wagons, from Camden to Pine Bluff. Col. William E. McLean, Forty-third Indiana Infantry, the brigade commander, being sick, was unable to go personally in command. Col. C. W. Kittredge, Thirty-sixth Iowa, Col. W. B. Mason, Seventy-seventh Ohio, being also sick, the command devolved upon me as the ranking officer. At the request of Colonel McLean I reported to Major-General Steele for instructions, who ordered me to move with the train early next morning to Pine Bluff, and when the same was loaded to return with it to Camden. In obedience to his instructions I crossed the Ouachita that evening and encamped on the opposite bank, where the train was parked. My forces consisted of the Forty-third Indiana Infantry, Maj. W. W. Norris commanding, about 300 strong; Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, Maj. A. H. Hamilton commanding, about 500 strong; Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, about 400 strong, Captain McCormick commanding, and two sections of Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery, Lieutenant Peetz commanding.

Next morning at daylight Major McCauley, First Indiana Cavalry, reported to me for duty with a detachment of 240 men from that regiment and the Seventh Missouri Cavalry. I would further report that in addition to the above-named forces there accompanied the train Lieutenant Schrom, of General Salomon's staff, Captain Sprague, of General Carr's staff, and Captain Townsend, of General Rice's staff, together with a large number of citizens, cotton speculators, Arkansas refugees, sutlers, and other army followers, and also some 300 negroes. At 5 a. m. on the 23d instant I moved and

encamped about 18 miles from Camden. The advance under Major McCauley, during the afternoon, encountered a few squads of rebel cavalry along the road, but we did not discover the enemy in any force. Finding the roads much worn by the loaded supply trains to Camden and greatly damaged by recent rains, I organized a pioneer corps, consisting of about 75 colored recruits. By much exertion I succeeded in reaching the edge of the Moro Bottom on the evening of the 24th, where I encamped, keeping my pioneer corps at work during the night, bridging the slough and corduroying the bottom. On the 24th, Major McCauley had been diligently scouting all parts of the country, but was unable to discover any enemy. During the night I placed a cavalry picket of 1 officer and 25 men about 2½ miles in my rear, at the junction of the Chambersville and Camden roads, with instructions to patrol at daylight on each road to the rear for 5 miles. I also placed a cavalry picket of 10 men at the junction of the Princeton road, about 2 miles in my advance, with orders to patrol on that road at daylight, 5 miles, and ordered Major McCauley to send an officer and 75 men forward at daylight to the junction of the Warren road, about 6 miles in advance, and take position, to send patrols on that road for 4 or 5 miles, and to go himself with the balance of his command at daylight to the picket-post in our rear, and remain until patrols returned. On the 25th, I moved my pioneer corps at daylight and started the train, the Forty-third Indiana, Major Norris, with one section of artillery, taking the advance, with instructions to proceed on the march and take a position at the junction of the Warren and Pine Bluff roads, and, if the patrol on these roads should report any enemy advancing, to cover their front with a strong line of skirmishers.

I remained at camp with the Thirty-sixth Iowa and Seventy-seventh Ohio and one section of artillery until I received information from the rear, and the train was in motion on the road, when I ordered Major Hamilton, Thirty-sixth Iowa, to move forward on the flank of the train until further orders or until he should reach the junction of the Warren road.

The Seventy-seventh Ohio, with the remaining section of artillery, was left in the rear with instructions how to proceed in case of an attack. Captain Whitridge, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieutenant Eagler, of Colonel McLean's staff, remained in the rear with this portion of the command. I had arrived within about 2 miles of my advance, when I met a courier, who informed me that there was skirmishing in front. I ordered the Thirty-sixth Iowa quickly forward. I also dispatched an orderly at rapid speed to the head of the train with orders to Lieutenant Schrom, whom I had intrusted with the advance that morning, to park the train in a field to the left of the road as fast as it came up. Arriving at the advance I found Major Norris, Forty-third Indiana, with Major Spellman, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, who had arrived from Pine Bluff with a force of 150 cavalry from his regiment and the Fifth Kansas, skirmishing with the enemy at the junction of the Warren and Camden roads, on the ridge known as Red Lands. I soon ascertained that a large force of the enemy, commanded by General Fagan, was in our front. I immediately extended the line of skirmishers by deploying two additional companies of the Forty-third Indiana, and ordered the remainder of my forces to move up on double-quick. The Thirty-sixth Iowa was soon up and in position

for action. Two brigades, ascertained to be Cabell's and Dockery's, were now engaging us, and the skirmishing was very brisk. Major Norris, with the remaining companies of the Forty-third Indiana, moved forward and supported the skirmish line. The enemy then, in overwhelming numbers, charged upon our line, and were gallantly met by the Forty-third Indiana, who went forward with a deafening shout and drove back the brigade of Dockery. I then ordered Major Hamilton to take the left wing of the Thirty-sixth Iowa, and move to the support of our advance. He had just placed his men in position when the enemy again charged upon our center. I ordered Major Norris to deploy to the right and left to give an opening for our artillery, ordering Lieutenant Peetz to hold his fire until they were in close range, and to give them grape. They came charging up in column, and when within 75 yards the battery opened upon them as ordered, Major Hamilton ordering his men, who [were] lying down, to rise up and fire. They poured a deadly volley of musketry into the enemy, whose ranks were again broken, and they staggered and fell back, but only to rally again.

The contest raged with unabated fury, the Forty-third Indiana and five companies of the Thirty-sixth Iowa, with Lieutenant Peetz's artillery, sustaining the full charge of the enemy. The brigades of Shelby and Fagan were in sight and advancing rapidly upon my left and rear. The Seventy-seventh Ohio was hurrying forward, but was not yet up. I moved the remaining five companies of the Thirty-sixth Iowa forward, posting them for a charge on the right of Fagan's brigade, and while so doing I received a wound from a minie-ball through the thigh and hip, completely disabling me. Subsequently I ordered Major McCauley, with about 60 cavalrymen, to make a charge upon the left of Fagan's brigade, while the right wing of the Thirty-sixth Iowa charged his right flank for the purpose of forming a junction with the Seventy-seventh Ohio. I then told Captain Magill to turn the command over to the next ranking officer present. For some cause this was not done. I understand that, owing to the overwhelming numbers of the enemy and in spite of the gallant efforts of the Seventy-seventh Ohio, this junction could not be formed. Seeing that we were overwhelmed in front, the combined forces of the enemy moved upon the Seventy-seventh Ohio, who gallantly withstood them for more than an hour, but finally yielded to superior numbers.

The attacking forces of the enemy could not have been less than 6,000 men. Overwhelmed, as each command was, by greatly superior numbers, they still continued to fight each upon its own responsibility, until the conflict became a hand-to-hand fight. At last, however, our ammunition being exhausted and a large proportion of our men killed or wounded, they at length yielded to the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, and being completely surrounded, they were captured as prisoners of war. Less than 150 of the brigade escaped from the conflict, the balance, including the wounded, being made prisoners. I cannot give the exact number of killed and wounded of my command. Dr. Cochran, surgeon of the First Iowa Cavalry, and medical director of Major-General Steele's forces, informed me that it would be about 250. I have requested him to furnish you a list. An official list of casualties will also be furnished from the several regiments belonging to the brigade. It was estimated that after the battle from 800 to 900 men lay dead and wounded on the battle-field, about half of whom were rebels, and a large number

were negroes and Arkansas refugees, who, I am informed, were inhumanly butchered by the enemy, and among them my own negro servant.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of returning my especial thanks to Majors Norris, Hamilton, and McCauley, and Captain McCormick, and Lieutenant Peetz for their gallant and distinguished services in the management of their respective commands; and to Capts. W. S. Magill and W. E. Whitridge, and Lieuts. Charles J. Eagler and D. Putnam, of McLean's, and Lieut. James B. Schrom, of General Salomon's staff, for their valuable services. I would also extend my thanks to Brig. Gen. Samuel A. Rice for the valuable services of Capt. M. G. Townsend, who, I am informed, is among the killed. Captain Townsend was a brave and gallant officer. Peace to the ashes of the brave who fell! To Drs. M. B. Cochran, I. Casselberry, C. G. Strong, Patrick A. Smyth, and all the surgeons with me, too much credit cannot be awarded for the energy and industry they are exhibiting in taking care of the wounded. All of the officers and men of my command behaved well, and fought as only patriots fighting to save a bleeding country can fight. They deserve well of their country.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. DRAKE,

Lieut. Col. Thirty-sixth Iowa Infy., Comdg. Second Brig.

Capt. A. BLOCKI.

Assistant Adjutant-General.

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CENTERVILLE, IOWA, *July* 5, 1864.

DEAR SIR: Inclosed I send you copies* of my official reports of the battles of Elkin's Ford, Ark., April 4, 1864, and of Marks' Mills, Ark., April 25, 1864. At the date of my report of the battle of Marks' Mills I was a prisoner in the hands of the enemy, and supposed to be mortally wounded. I was suffering very much from my wounds when I dictated the report and omitted detailed particulars which, under more favorable circumstances, I should have given. The portion of my forces engaged with the enemy numbered about 1,000. The rebel forces, commanded by Major-General Fagan, consisted of seven brigades, commanded by Brigadier-Generals Shelby, Dockery, Cabell, Cooper, and Crawford, and Colonels Greene and Wright, and numbered, as I have learned correctly since date of my report, 8,000 strong. The battle lasted about five hours. We had been fighting about two and a half hours when I was wounded. Up to that time we had succeeded in repulsing every charge of the enemy, and except from the great disparity in numbers the prospect of victory was in our favor. I am clearly of opinion that had my order (given after I was disabled) to turn over the command to the next ranking officer been promptly executed a junction might have been formed with the Seventy-seventh Ohio, and our forces might have been at least withdrawn and retreated to Camden, avoiding the capture of any except the wounded. I remained in the hands of the enemy eight days, under treatment of Dr. C. G. Strong, assistant surgeon Thirty-sixth Iowa, and myself and all the wounded were well attended and well

*See pp. 710, 712.

cared for. With the exception of a few able to travel on foot with the prisoners taken south, the wounded were paroled and afterward, under flag of truce, brought to Pine Bluff by our forces. The Thirty-sixth Iowa went into the action with less than 500 men, and you will find, by reference to their list of killed and wounded, which I have ordered to be forwarded to you, that more than one-fourth of their number were killed or wounded. I arrived home on the 28th of May, and am rapidly recovering from my wounds, and hope to be able to join my command soon.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. DRAKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry.

General N. B. BAKER,
Adjutant-General of Iowa.

No. 17.

Report of Col. William B. Mason, Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, of operations April 2–3.

HDQRS. SEVENTY-SEVENTH REGT. OHIO VET. VOL. INFY.,
In Camp, Arkansas, April 6, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions received on the evening of April 2, I marched my command, accompanied with two pieces of Company E, Second Missouri Artillery, from Okolona, Ark., out about 2½ miles on a road running in a northwestern direction, and intersecting with the Washington road, to support the First Iowa Cavalry, which was reported engaged with the enemy on the Washington road, and falling back. Having selected a good position, I directed the pieces to be planted and held my regiment in line about an hour, when I received orders from General Salomon to return to Okolona, where I encamped for the night, the remainder of the brigade having gone on to the Little Missouri River. On the morning of the 3d, I received verbal orders from General Salomon to report with my command to Col. Adolph Engelmann, commanding the Third Brigade, who had orders to march his brigade back to Spoonville, Ark. I reported accordingly and accompanied his brigade to Spoonville and returned last evening, when I was relieved from duty with the Third Brigade and ordered to report back to you in the morning.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. B. MASON,
Colonel, Comdg. Seventy-seventh Ohio Vet. Vol. Infy.

Capt. W. E. WHITRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 18.

Reports of Lieut. Charles Peetz, Battery E, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

SIR: On the 22d day of April, 1864, the first and third sections left Camden, under command of First Lieut. Charles Peetz, as escort to

a supply train from Camden to Pine Bluff, Ark. At 5 a. m. camp was broke and the march commenced, the escort being under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, the escort consisting of the Forty-third Indiana Infantry, Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, and Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, and also four pieces of Light Battery E, Second Missouri Artillery, under command of First Lieut. Charles Peetz, and several detachments of cavalry. On the 23d of April some of our officers and men had been captured, but no regular fight ensued. During the 24th of April nothing happened, but during the night of the 24th of April General Fagan tried to attack us in the rear, with which movement he succeeded only too well next day. On the 25th of April, at 8 a. m., at Marks' Mills, Ark., Major-General Fagan attacked us in our front, the Forty-third Indiana Infantry and the third section of our battery being in the advance, the Thirty-sixth Iowa as flankers, and the Seventy-seventh Ohio and the first section of our battery being in the rear of the train, the train consisting of 240 Government wagons and a considerable number of ambulances. Our advance had very heavy skirmishing for about one hour with the enemy, and at 9 o'clock I opened fire with the third section, changing direction of firing three times. Being in action four or five hours, the Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry and the first section of the battery were ordered to the front, but unfortunately before they could join the advance they were either captured or killed and wounded. As we were also overpowered by unequal numbers and no re-enforcements coming to our relief, after five and a half hours of hard fighting we were either taken prisoners or killed, but indeed the loss of life was dreadful on both sides. As for our battery I cannot ascertain how many were lost. I was wounded myself, but to my greatest enjoyment when I was exchanged on the 4th of May, 1864, and having arrived at Little Rock, Ark., I found 7 of my boys, who had made their escape and had joined the battery again at Little Rock. We lost our four pieces, horses, harness, &c.; also the whole train. As for our horses, they did not get many, as they were pretty near all killed or wounded. I lost two horses myself, private property, which were shot from under me. Since my return to Little Rock 6 men of our battery have returned under parole, 3 being now exchanged. During all the engagements the men of the battery, without any exception, behaved most nobly, which deserves the greatest praise during the whole campaign. Without any exception, the battle of Marks' Mills, Ark., was one of the hardest battles I have ever been in.

I remain, yours, truly,

CHARLES PEETZ,
First Lieut. Battery E, Second Missouri Artillery.

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LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *May* 24, 1864.

COLONEL: I very respectfully submit to you a complete report of the campaign of Light Battery E, Second Missouri Artillery Volunteers, in the Third Division, Seventh Army Corps, Department of Arkansas, under special command of Brig. Gen. F. Salomon, commanding Third Division, Seventh Army Corps. Captain Stange having been appointed chief of artillery, Third Division, Seventh Army Corps, March 14, 1864, First Lieut. Charles Peetz took command of Light Battery E, the only officer remaining with the battery,

and so we started from Little Rock, Ark., to Benton, 25 miles, and from there we started to the Little Missouri River. Up to this time the battery had not been engaged. We arrived at the Little Missouri River on the 2d of April.

On the march from Little Rock to the Little Missouri, Jacob Bauer, being sick and tired of his life, cut his throat and was found the next day, March 28, lying dead near our camp. We crossed the Little Missouri River on the night of the 3d of April with two pieces, the remaining under my command, and staid on the northwest side of the river, the third section being left 3½ miles in our rear, the center section at the river bank and the first section of the battery, under special command of First Lieut. Charles Peetz, in advance on the southeast side of the river. At about 6 a. m., April 4, the fight between the first section of our battery with some infantry and dismounted cavalry commenced, the rebel forces being under command of Major-General Fagan. The engagement lasted until about 12 m. In the mean time I had been ordered to join the first section. Leaving the third section, under command of Sergt. William Daniels, in the rear, I joined the advance section about 9.30 a. m., and opened fire instantly. The enemy were repulsed, and the following men of the battery had been wounded during the engagement: Corpl. Anton Eis, in the head, slightly; Private Charles Stone, in abdomen, severely; Private Charles Thomas, in hand, slightly. Charles Thomas returned next day for duty to the company; the others remained in the corps hospital. The army then advanced about 3½ miles, where we remained for several days, and then moved forward 5 miles to Prairie D'Ane, where the Ninth Wisconsin light battery, the Third Illinois Battery,* with some infantry, under the command of Brig. Gen. F. Salomon, were engaged with the enemy. On the 11th of April, from noon until dark, we fought them as well as we knew how until our battery was ordered up to the advance, where it remained until we took possession of Camden, Ark. On the 12th of April General F. Steele made a forward movement with his whole command in line of battle. The command had been joined on the 9th by General Thayer's division, from Fort Smith, expecting to be met by a force of the enemy, who had several batteries and strong fortifications on the south edge of the prairie. Accordingly on the 13th of April we moved, after having found the fortifications evacuated, toward Camden, Ark. On the 14th of April, at about 10 a. m., our battery, having been in the rear of the division, was ordered up to the extreme advance with General Rice's brigade to make a forced march to the crossing of the Camden and Washington road, to prevent the enemy from crossing the junction, and Providence favored us in giving us a very good place in case of a general engagement. We marched until about 10 p. m. that day, and the next morning we started again at 5 a. m., marching steady along for our destination. As we had crossed the junction and expected the enemy to be retreating to Camden, at 5 a. m., April 15, the enemy attacked us in the front and we immediately formed in line of battle. The battle then ensued and was nothing but a regular duel between our battery and eight pieces of the rebels, not a single shot of musketry being fired during the whole engagement. After two hours' steady firing the enemy retreated, and pushing constantly forward we drove them 12 miles, when they turned to the Washington road, while we marched on to Camden, where we arrived at about 8 p. m., April 15.

* Vaughn's battery.

In this day's fighting the following men of the battery had been wounded: Private Bernhard Kohlhaus, who died next day; Corpl. August Herzog, in left foot, severely; Private Henry Meyers, in head, slightly. We camped in the fort southeast of Camden, the fort being constructed for six guns, where we remained several days.

On the 15th day of April, by order of Maj. Gen. F. Steele, a forage train, consisting of 200 wagons and about 1,200 men as an escort, with two pieces of the Second Indiana Battery, was sent after forage on the same road on which we came to Camden.

On the 18th, the train was attacked; the artillery captured; also the escort either taken or killed; and as there were three of our battery teams along, all the men except 3 returned to camp. The names of these men missing are Henry Wahl, Hubert Zeitvogel, and Harry E. Wilson.

On the 22d of April two sections of our battery (the first and third sections), under command of Lieut. Charles Peetz, were ordered with the Second Brigade as escort to a supply train from Camden to Pine Bluff. The center section remained at Camden. During the evening of the 25th, Edward Warner, who belonged to the first section, returned, stating that the rebels had captured the train and whole escort and that he had made his escape. The next day this was confirmed by others coming in, and being forced by these circumstances General Steele commenced the retreat toward Little Rock, Ark.

We crossed the Ouachita River at Camden, during the night of the 26th and 27th of April, and marched unmolested the 27th, 28th, and 29th, but on the afternoon of the 29th our rear was attacked, but our troops very easily repulsed the attack. During the afternoon a heavy rain commenced falling, which continued that day and the following night. We had just entered the Saline Bottom at Jenkins' Ferry, known to be a very difficult crossing-place and after heavy rains almost impassable. During the night of the 29th, we commenced crossing, first the ordnance train, &c. That night it was impossible to move with the artillery, and next morning found us yet on the Camden side of the Saline River in a most pitiable condition, hungry and in mud and rain, &c. At daybreak the enemy attacked us again in the rear, but General F. Salomon, with his infantry and some colored troops of General Thayer's command, formed in line of battle and received the enemy with yells and shouts, and after more than six hours' hard fighting the enemy were defeated, leaving three pieces of artillery and their dead and wounded in our hands. No artillery had been used during the engagement on our side. Our loss is reported to be heavy, but I have not yet seen any official report.

The roads were so bad that General Steele had ordered to burn all the transportation trains except so much, to save all records and company books; we also had to destroy all of our clothing. We camped 5 miles the other side of the Saline River that night, and pushed on next day on forced marches to Little Rock, Ark., which place we arrived at on the 2d of May, 1864.

I remain, yours, truly,

CHARLES PEETZ,
First Lieut. Battery E, Second Missouri Artillery.

Col. N. COLE,
Comdg. Second Missouri Light Artillery.

No. 19.

Reports of Col. Adolph Engelmann, Forty-third Illinois Infantry, commanding Third Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp in the Field, near Elkin's Ferry, April 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 3d instant, being in camp at Okolona, I received orders to march to Hollywood with my brigade, the Seventy-seventh Ohio, and a brigade of cavalry, under Colonel Ritter, numbering 1,000 men, with two mountain howitzers. The cavalry being then stationed on the Little Missouri, it was only expected to arrive at Okolona at noon. At 9 a. m., while a large portion of the supply train still remained and my men were drawing rations for the march, the pickets stationed on the Washington road were attacked. Two companies of the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin were ordered forward to re-enforce them. The firing becoming brisk both to the right and left, additional companies of the Twenty-seventh were sent forward with orders to deploy in the woods, to the left of the road. One company of the Fortieth Iowa was deployed to the right, and two companies of the Forty-third Illinois, joining the right of the skirmishers of the Fortieth, were deployed across the Arkadelphia road running eastward from Okolona. The enemy now opened on my main position with two light pieces of artillery. A single shot from one of the guns of Vaughn's battery made them quit their position. The enemy's artillery subsequently fired a few more rounds from concealed positions at my skirmishers, with but little effect. Immediately after the commencement of the artillery firing, Colonel Krez, commanding Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, was ordered forward with the remaining companies of his regiment, with instructions to join his companies already deployed and to dislodge the enemy. Two companies of the Seventy-seventh Ohio were ordered to follow the movements of Colonel Krez as a reserve, while two further companies of that regiment were deployed to the left to cover ground vacated by the advance of the Twenty-seventh. The train and its rear guard having left Okolona, one company of the Seventy-seventh was ordered to cover the road leading to the river. Some of the enemy appearing beyond the open fields to the southwest, a platoon of the Seventy-seventh was sent to re-enforce the pickets stationed in that direction, with instructions to occupy a belt of timber projecting into those fields. The skirmishing from the Arkadelphia road to the extreme left of Colonel Krez's line now became heavy, particularly in front of the Twenty-seventh, enlivened by an occasional discharge of canister or shell from the enemy's battery, when a drenching shower set in, which for a while arrested the conflict. The rain having ceased the enemy were speedily driven from our right, concentrating their forces against Colonel Krez, who, however, with his own regiment and two companies of the Fortieth Iowa, which had been the picket on that line, now drove the enemy for some distance, when he precipitately retreated, Colonel Krez pursuing for 2 miles. Unfortunately the cavalry had not yet come up, and could not be made available in the pursuit.

I beg leave to submit herewith a detailed report* of the casualties

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 3 enlisted men killed and 7 enlisted men wounded.

in my command and copies of the reports of regimental commanders. I also submit reports of the number of rounds of ammunition expended.* When in the early part of the engagement the enemy opened on my main position, all the guns of Vaughn's battery had been charged with percussion shell. Before resuming the march these had to be discharged. All information that I have been able to gather proves that the loss of the enemy was by far more severe than our own. The cavalry brigade, coming in at about 2 o'clock, was detained for some time in issuing rations to its men. It was 4 p. m. when, having drawn in the skirmishers and pickets, I commenced the march toward Hollywood. The roads, badly cut up by the passage of our army, had become very difficult in consequence of the heavy rain in the morning. Night set in before I reached the Washington and Arkadelphia road, when, running upon pickets of the enemy, I formed the Third Brigade in line and bivouacked for the night. On the morning of the 4th no enemy was found, his pickets having been withdrawn during the night. A cavalry patrol was sent out on the Washington road for some miles, driving small parties of the enemy who were here engaged in burning cotton. Another patrol was sent to a steam mill, three-quarters of a mile from the cross-roads, with instructions to make the mill unserviceable, and take the proprietor, who, according to information received, had guided Shelby in his attacks on our forces on the 2d and 3d of April. Some portions of the machinery were taken out of the mill and destroyed, rendering it unfit for use. The proprietor was not found. Colonel Ritter had the advance to Hollywood. On his arrival he sent some of his forces out toward Arkadelphia to ascertain whether anything could be heard of General Thayer. They returned without having been able to get any intelligence. On the morning of the 5th, two squadrons were sent out on the Fort Smith road for the same object.

I left Hollywood at 10 a. m. Colonel Ritter remained until the return of the squadrons that had taken the Fort Smith road, he having been requested in case he should obtain any information of General Thayer to send it to me immediately. At the cross-roads I again sent small patrols of cavalry both toward Washington and to the mill. At the latter the man who had been guiding Shelby was apprehended and taken into camp by Colonel Ritter. I arrived in camp on the Little Missouri after dark, and immediately reported at division headquarters in person.

It becomes my duty here to report an atrocity committed by an officer of Shelby's command. The Widow Coles, living at Hollywood, has a son in the Third Missouri Cavalry. When Shelby's forces entered that place on the morning of the 2d instant an officer rode up to her house, and asking her whether a negro man then present was her property, on her answering in the affirmative, shot the negro twice, one shot taking effect in the neck, the other in the head, and left him for dead.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

ADOLPH ENGELMANN,

Col. 43d Regt. Ill. Vols., Comdg. 3d Brig., 3d Div., 7th A. C.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Not found.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp in the Field, near Moscow, Ark., April 13, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on Sunday, the 10th instant, on the march from Elkin's Ferry to Prairie D'Ane, having the advance of the Third Division, at 4 p. m. I came upon the cavalry division, which was halted in edge of the woods bordering the prairie. Large numbers of the enemy's cavalry and some artillery were deployed on the central ridge of the prairie running east and west, while the ridge in front commanding the point where the road enters the prairie was held by the enemy's skirmishers, concealed in the dense undergrowth covering the same. Battery A, Third Illinois Artillery,* was brought in position, commanding the first ridge. The Fortieth Iowa Volunteers being deployed to the right and the Forty-third Illinois to the left, as supports to the battery, the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin being held in reserve, companies of the Fortieth and Forty-third were sent forward as skirmishers to develop the enemy. The enemy not appearing in force on the first ridge, the general commanding division having in the mean time come up, by his orders these two regiments were deployed as skirmishers and sent forward, while the Twenty-seventh was brought up to support the battery. The Forty-third, gallantly led by Lieutenant-Colonel Dengler, was the first to gain the high ground heretofore occupied by the enemy's skirmishers. They were closely followed by the Fortieth. The battery and the Twenty-seventh were now also brought forward, and while they were being placed in position the enemy opened on them with his artillery. The fire was effectively replied to by Captain Vaughn. The rebel artillery having been driven from its position, the Fortieth and Forty-third were, by order of the general commanding division, again advanced. These two regiments, driving the enemy steadily before them, soon gained the commanding position previously occupied by him. The battery and Twenty-seventh were now speedily brought up, and with the other regiments formed in line, the Fortieth on the right, resting against Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell's brigade of cavalry, the battery in the center, supported to the right and left by the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, the Forty-third on the left, resting on Brigadier-General Rice's command. Night had set in before this line was completed.

Having orders to make connection with the troops, both to my right and left, I was compelled to occupy and cover with skirmishers a greater extent of front than the limited number of troops under my command could well afford. During all this time a brisk fire was maintained from both sides by the skirmishers in my front. At about 8 p. m. the enemy again opened upon my position from a battery to the southwest, at 1,000 yards distance. It was reluctantly, but with good effect, replied to by my battery. Artillery and skirmish firing was kept up with some intermissions till 10 o'clock, when the enemy charged upon my battery from the direction of my right front, but were repulsed by the fire of the Fortieth and Twenty-seventh and several volleys of canister in quick succession by the battery. From that time on I was no longer molested, and the men were enabled to take such rest as lying in ranks on an open prairie of a frosty night, without fire, would grant them. I beg leave herewith to submit the reports of regimental and battery commanders. I would also refer to a report of the casualties already sent in, the

*Vaughn's battery.

total amount of casualties being in the brigade 1 man killed, 1 seriously wounded, and 11 slightly wounded. None missing.

The loss of the enemy has not been ascertained. The loss of the enemy in horses killed was ten to one of our own.

I have the honor to be, with high regard, your most obedient servant,

ADOLPH ENGELMANN,
Col. Forty-third Regt. Illinois Vols., Comdg. Third Brig.

Capt. A. BLOCKI,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., May 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 25th day of April, at Camden, I was instructed by the general commanding division to dig rifle-pits for the protection of my command, then in position on the Prairie D'Ane road, between the two principal redoubts of the series of works erected around that place. The pits were traced and the work commenced the same day, details of the Fortieth Iowa working all night. At 1 p. m. on the 26th, I received orders to have the teams of my command loaded and ready to cross the Washita at 3 o'clock, the troops to remain in their respective positions and to constitute the rear of the army. The working on the rifle-pits was now discontinued. It was 1 a. m. on the 27th when the body of the army had crossed the Washita, and my brigade left its position and marched for the pontoon bridge. Arriving on the east side of the river, the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteers was deployed above the bridge, the Forty-third Illinois Volunteers below the same, the Fortieth Iowa being placed in reserve to cover the taking up of the pontoon. It was daylight when the last pontoon was loaded, and the brigade enabled to commence the march. The men, having been under arms all night and marching in the rear of the army, were unable to get any rest or to do any foraging on that day, although the distance marched was inconsiderable. The sun was down when they reached the encampment assigned them for the night. On the morning of the 28th, at 4 o'clock, my brigade resumed the march, and having the advance of the infantry division arrived at Princeton at 1 p. m., where we were able to forage a sufficient quantity of fresh meat to supply the men for the day. On the morning of the 29th, my orders were to again constitute the rear of the army, and to resume the march at 4 a. m. It was, however, 8 o'clock before the troops in advance of me had all left town, so that I could move off. After turning from the Tulip road I was notified by the rear guard, consisting of two companies of the Sixth Kansas, that some of the enemy were in sight, and information was received of large bodies of the enemy in our immediate vicinity, pushing rapidly after us. At noon it commenced to rain, and at the same time the enemy engaged the rear guard, and soon brought up artillery with which he attempted to rake the road. I, however, steadily continued the march until 1.30 p. m., the road forward, leading through a bottom one-half mile wide, being crowded with our troops at a halt, and the enemy pressing my rear I was compelled to form line to check his farther advance until the road forward should become disencumbered.

The Fortieth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, Companies F and B of the Forty-third Illinois, and one section of Vaughn's battery, under Lieutenant Thomas, were placed in line, and soon engaged by the enemy with small-arms and four pieces of artillery. The response by our skirmishers and artillery was deliberate and effective. The Forty-third Illinois, Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, and four pieces of Vaughn's battery were formed into a second line. Subsequently the Fortieth Iowa and Twenty-seventh Wisconsin and one section of the battery formed a third line. The road now having become clear of our troops, and the enemy having received a decided check by the engagement with the first line, showed no disposition to molest us at that time.

I resumed the march in the road, covering the rear with a line of skirmishers consisting of two companies of the Fortieth Iowa, that regiment forming the rear of the brigade. Arriving on the bluff above the Saline Bottom I was ordered by the general commanding division to leave one regiment and one section of artillery as a picket at that point. The Forty-third Illinois and the section under charge of Lieutenant Thomas, all under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dengler, were assigned to this duty. I had not proceeded beyond the field at the foot of the bluff, when the picket was attacked and I was compelled to form the Fortieth Iowa in rear of the field as a support to the Forty-third Illinois. Colonel Garrett, commanding the Fortieth, was instructed to throw out skirmishers on both his right and left flanks so as to connect with the Forty-third Illinois and guard his regiment against surprise. The enemy again brought artillery into action, but a few rounds from our own compelled him to speedily withdraw his pieces. During the remaining hours of daylight the engagement (extending from the right of the Fortieth along the front of the Forty-third and down again to the skirmishers on the left of the Fortieth) was maintained exclusively with small-arms, the enemy making frequent use of percussion rifle-balls. At sunset our artillery was withdrawn from the picket. At nightfall, the skirmishing having ceased, the Thirty-third Iowa, a regiment of General Rice's brigade, having been ordered to report to me, took the position of the Forty-third Illinois, the latter regiment, however, withdrawing under the brow of the bluff, where it was formed as a reserve to the Thirty-third. During the afternoon and night it rained with but little intermission, causing the regiments which were lying out in line, without any shelter and without fires, to suffer severely. The Fortieth Iowa and Forty-third Illinois endured the most, as they had been skirmishing with the enemy during the rain since noon and now had to lie in it over night. At 2 a. m. I was ordered to withdraw all the regiments from picket but one, which was to be deployed in rear of the field at the foot of the bluff. The Thirty-third Iowa was by me assigned to this position, it being one of the regiments of the First Brigade, which, according to the regular changes in the order of march heretofore observed in the division, would have the rear that day. Soon after daybreak on the 30th, this regiment was engaged by the enemy. General Rice coming up requested me to send a regiment to the support of the Thirty-third. The Twenty-seventh Wisconsin was sent back for that purpose. A staff officer now informed me that my brigade was again to take the rear that day, and that the troops should move toward the Saline River as fast as the train should clear the road. The Twenty-seventh Wisconsin accordingly relieved the Thirty-third, but the

engagement having by this time become heavy General Rice offered to form a second line with some of his troops, to hold the enemy in check while the Forty-third Illinois and Fortieth Iowa Regiments of my brigade and Thirty-third Iowa of his own should prepare themselves some coffee and rest from the fatigue and exposure of the night. The Twenty-seventh Wisconsin was to be withdrawn on the completion of the second line. This line having been formed the Twenty-seventh was moved off, and my brigade was placed in position in the edge of the timber bordering the last field on the road toward the bridge. The Thirty-third also came into the same field, and the men of the different regiments built fires to prepare their coffee. But long ere this was cooked the engagement had assumed such proportions that the regiments had to be successively sent to those points where their presence was most needed. Of the troops assembled in the field General Rice first withdrew his own regiment, the Thirty-third Iowa. He making application for a regiment of my brigade to cover his left flank, the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin was ordered out and placed in position by Lieutenant Duncan, of his staff. The general commanding division coming up, the two remaining regiments of my brigade were by him ordered toward the enemy, leaving two companies of the Fortieth Iowa deployed to cover the left of the position heretofore held by the brigade. The enemy at this time making a demonstration in force on our right beyond the creek, and there being danger of his gaining a position enfilading our own lines, the general ordered the Forty-third across to force him back. The men, with some hesitancy, plunged into the narrow but swollen stream, the water being from 3 to 4 feet deep, filling the cartridge-boxes of many. Deploying on the opposite side, the Forty-third was soon briskly engaged, and in conjunction with two companies of the Second Kansas, African descent, steadily and speedily drove the enemy from that side of the creek. The section of Vaughn's battery, under Lieutenant Thomas, having returned to the battle-field, the Fortieth Iowa was formed for its support, several of its companies, however, being also thrown across the creek to deploy as skirmishers on the extreme right of our lines. Information being now received that the enemy were making a powerful demonstration on our left and threatening to turn it, Colonel Garrett, with four companies of his regiment, which had been stationed to the left of the guns, was ordered to form on the extreme left of our lines.

The enemy having been completely repulsed on the right concentrated his efforts on the center and left of our lines, testing the bravery of the troops to the utmost. General Rice requested that the Forty-third Illinois, now lying on its arms and not engaged by the enemy, be ordered to the left center of our position. This request was complied with as expeditiously as the distance occupied by that regiment beyond the creek would admit, the skirmishers of the Fortieth Iowa, heretofore deployed still farther to the right, being moved toward the left as the Forty-third withdrew. This movement took place at a decisive moment. The four companies of the Fortieth Iowa holding the extreme left of our lines were hard pressed by the enemy, but maintained their position with the most commendable bravery, suffering, however, in proportion to the number of men composing those companies, the most severe loss of any of our troops engaged at Jenkins' Ferry. The general commanding division being informed of the desperate nature of the conflict on our extreme left

ordered the First Arkansas, a regiment of General Thayer's division, which came up as re-enforcement, to support them. The appearance of this regiment on our extreme left immediately relieved the pressure on the Fortieth, without the First Arkansas sustaining any material loss. In the mean time the Forty-third Illinois had come up with the center of our lines just as the Thirty-third Iowa had for the second time completely exhausted its ammunition, and passing through that regiment took up the engagement, driving the enemy for one-half a mile to the foot of the bluff. The enemy having now been completely repulsed on all sides, the general commanding division ordered the troops to be recalled, and the march to be resumed, which was done in good order. Thus terminated one of the most sanguinary engagements of the war, fought exclusively by infantry, the section of artillery brought into position by us firing but a single shot, while the enemy's battery of four pieces only went into position to be taken by a combined attack of the Twenty-ninth Iowa and Second Kansas, African descent.

The ground over which the battle was fought, with the exception of the two open fields near the road, was a majestic forest, growing out of the swamp, which it was very difficult to pass through on horseback, the infantry being most of the time in the water up to their knees.

The advanced position occupied by the Forty-third Illinois when the march was resumed enabled me to form an opinion as to the relative loss of our own and the enemy's forces. I do not hesitate to give the enemy's loss as three to one of our own. His loss in field officers was particularly heavy. I must here express the high obligations under which I am to Colonel Garrett and Lieutenant-Colonel Dengler for the gallantry with which they led their commands, being conscious, however, that nothing I can say can afford them the satisfaction they must have experienced in witnessing the bravery of their men. To the officers of my staff I am under obligations for faithful and valuable services during the campaign. To Captain Fay, acting assistant adjutant-general, for services on the field, Okolona, Prairie D'Ane, and during the skirmish on the 29th. Early in the engagement on the 30th, he was intrusted by the general commanding division with the execution of an order from army headquarters, directing the lightening and destruction of trains still on the west side of the river. Lieut. M. H. White, aide-de-camp and inspecting officer, whether in health or sickness, both on the march and the battle-field, ever performed his whole duty as a brave and accomplished officer. Lieut. Damon Greenleaf, aide-de-camp, as a brave and patriotic officer, rendered, under all circumstances, most valuable services, most particularly at Okolona, and during the engagement of the 29th.

I have the honor to exhibit herewith the reports of regimental commanders; also detailed reports of the casualties, the number killed being 14; wounded, 73; total, 87.

Shortly after midnight on the morning of the 1st of May orders were received limiting the amount of transportation allowed to each brigade to one team, and directing the destruction of all surplus wagons and baggage. Heavy details were made on my command to carry out this order. Our route on this day for some miles led through a bottomless swamp, my brigade marching this day in rear of the division, and the ordnance and other trains having been ordered in advance. General Thayer also, although holding the rear of the army, having sent his artillery forward, the artillery assigned

to my command was the last to pass the swamp. The corduroy road, which had been prepared by the troops in advance, had, by the time my artillery was to pass, to a great extent disappeared in the mud. The horses were continually falling, while limbers, guns, and caissons almost sank in the swamp. I constituted the whole of my command into three working parties—one cutting out new roads wherever this was feasible, another party making corduroys, and by far the largest party being engaged in raising fallen horses and in drawing guns and caissons from which the horses had been taken off, frequently for a hundred yards at a time. By these means I was enabled to keep my command compact and closed upon the rear of those forward of me. On the morning of the 2d of May some more bad roads were encountered, and owing to the starved condition of the horses, the same having been without feed since leaving Princeton, they were unable to draw the guns and caissons, requiring much assistance from the infantry. Since leaving Princeton the men had been without bread, while the amount of meat drawn or foraged was inconsiderable. On the 30th of April and the 1st, and until the night of the 2d of May, the men had to subsist almost exclusively on coffee, yet they fought and defeated the enemy, worked the roads, and drew the artillery, not only without a murmur, but even cheerfully. The march on the 2d of May, owing to the exhausted and starved condition of the men, was entered upon by me with the apprehension that many would drop down by the roadside. Information having been received and communicated to the men that rations were to be brought from Little Rock into the encampment to be occupied that night, even the most feeble pushed on, all arriving in camp on the Benton road at sunset. The bravery and fortitude of the men, maintained under the most trying circumstances, not only in meeting and defeating an enemy by far more numerous than themselves, in suffering exposure to drenching rains, and being compelled for nights in succession to lie in the swamps, but above all, in bearing the attacks of gaunt hunger and yet obeying every order of their officers with cheerfulness and alacrity, entitles them to the highest consideration and gratitude of their country.

[A. ENGELMANN,
Col. Forty-third Illinois Vols., Comdg. Brigade.]

[Capt. A. BLOCKI,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

ADDENDA.

Itinerary of the Third Brigade, Third Division, April 1–30.*

April 1.—The brigade left Arkadelphia and arrived same day at Hollywood; distance about 14 miles. Marched from there to Okolona, near the Little Missouri River, about 18 miles, where the brigade was engaged by the enemy. Here the Fortieth Iowa had 2 men wounded, the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin 4 men killed, and the Forty-third Illinois 1 man wounded.

April 3.—In the evening the brigade marched back to Hollywood. Arrived there April 4 at 3 p. m.

April 5.—At 10 a. m. the brigade left Hollywood to join the main army. Arrived on the Little Missouri. Crossed the river on the 6th instant, and joined the main army near Elkin's Ferry.

*From return for April.

April 10.—The brigade left camp near Elkin's Ferry to Prairie D'Ane, where it participated in the skirmish that resulted in the retreat of the enemy. Here the Fortieth Iowa had 1 man killed, 4 men wounded; the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin 1 man killed; the Forty-third Illinois 1 man wounded. Left at noon the opening of the prairie, marched across it, and arrived at 6 p. m. in camp near Moscow, on the Camden road; after one night and two days' march arrived at Camden.

April 27.—At 10 a. m. started for Little Rock.

April 30.—The brigade took part in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry. Here the Fortieth Iowa had 6 men killed, 1 officer and 33 men wounded, 4 men prisoners, and 1 missing; the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, 5 men killed, 1 officer and 13 men wounded, 14 men missing; the Forty-third Illinois, 3 men killed, 1 officer and 8 men wounded, 1 man missing. Crossed the Saline and encamped for the night on this side. Arrived at Little Rock May 3. Total loss during the expedition was, killed, 20; wounded, 68; missing, 16.

No. 20.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Adolph Dengler, Forty-third Illinois Infantry.

Hdqrs. Forty-third Illinois Volunteer Infy.,
Elkin's Ferry, Ark., April 8, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to submit herewith a report of the part taken by the Forty-third Illinois in a skirmish at Okolona, Ark.: The regiment had just arrived at its camping-ground on the afternoon of the 2d April, when immediately thereafter some shots were fired at Vaughn's battery. The regiment was deployed to the right of the battery, and Company K, as well as Companies E and G, supported by Company H as reserve, were deployed as skirmishers. Company K had advanced some 600 yards when it fell in with the enemy's skirmishers. A brisk fire was kept up by this company for some time. Company B was then sent forward to support this company, but the enemy had meanwhile withdrawn; Companies E, G, and H were then also recalled, and the position in front and on the flanks of the regiment strongly picketed. At about noon of the 3d April the pickets of the Forty-third were fired at; Captain Shimminger with his company (B) was then sent forward; the captain, on arriving with his company at the picket-line, deployed his company as skirmishers, and after having gained the brow of a hill, opened a well-directed fire on the flanks of the enemy, which was kept up by this company for about two hours, when the enemy was forced to leave his position. Several attempts had been made by the enemy to outflank Captain Shimminger on the right. Company D, stationed on the right of Company B, baffled all attempts of the enemy.

No casualties occurred in the regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADOLPH DENGLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. W. E. Fay,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FORTY-THIRD ILLINOIS VOL. INFANTRY,
Camden, Ark., April 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken by the Forty-third Illinois in the skirmishes of the 10th, 11th, and 12th of April: On the afternoon of the 10th, after having arrived on the edge of Prairie D'Ane, I deployed, according to instructions, Company B as skirmishers, covering the front and left flank of the battalion. This company soon opened a brisk fire on the skirmishers of the enemy, when after the lapse of half an hour I received orders to advance with the regiment on the hill just in front of it and about a half of a mile in advance. I deployed three more companies as skirmishers, and advanced with the other five as a reserve, at first but slowly, the woods and a creek preventing me from advancing quicker; but having crossed the creek I went in double-quick up the hill, the rebel skirmishers retreating rapidly. Shortly after I received orders to protect Vaughn's battery, which was placed to my right, and soon commenced playing on the enemy's battery. While in this position Private G. Neun, Company D, was hit by a shell from the enemy's battery. The force of the enemy who had been drawn up in line of battle on the crest of a hill having withdrawn, I received orders to advance and occupy the hill. I deployed Companies A and F as skirmishers. These companies having arrived on the hill had a brisk skirmish with the enemy, who was, however, successfully driven back, my skirmishers following him some distance. The regiment camped on the hill during the night, exposed for a considerable length of time to the fire of the enemy's artillery. Several attempts were made to drive the pickets from my regiment in, who stood, however, their ground well, not yielding an inch. During the reconnaissance on April 11 the regiment formed part of a second line. We occupied during this night the same position as the night before. On the 12th, the regiment was on the extreme left of the infantry line, the cavalry being on its left flank. Company A was again deployed as skirmishers. The advance of the whole line was but slow, only the skirmishers exchanging shots with the enemy. Toward noon we arrived near the fortifications erected and deserted by the enemy, where we rested some time, and then took up the line of march toward Camden, at which place we arrived on the 15th. The only casualty happening was to G. Neun, Company D, slightly hit by a shell. Officers and men have done their duty promptly, have stood the severe hardships cheerfully, and sustained in every respect the good reputation of the regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADOLPH DENGLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. W. E. FAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. FORTY-THIRD REGT. ILLINOIS VOL. INFY.,
Little Rock, Ark., May 5, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the operations of the Forty-third Illinois from April 26 to April 30: At midnight of the 26th–27th, the regiment left Camden and crossed the

pontoon over the Ouachita. Some companies were here deployed and covered the withdrawal of the rear and the removal of the pontoon bridge. Nothing occurred during this day on the march. On the 28th, Princeton was reached. The next day we marched toward the Saline. When about 8 miles from Princeton the rear was attacked, and the regiment formed in line. Company F was deployed as skirmishers, and Company B was left as a support to a section of Vaughn's battery, while I moved on with the rest of the regiment. We marched then till within about 3 miles of the Saline, where I was ordered to occupy with the regiment and one section of Vaughn's battery a ridge, the last part of high ground before the road enters Saline bottom. Soon the enemy's skirmishers made their appearance; the regiment was formed behind the crest of the ridge, the First Battalion to the right, the Second to the left of the section of artillery. From each company a few men as skirmishers were sent forward, and soon a brisk fire commenced and continued until dark, when I was relieved by the Thirty-third Iowa. I withdrew the regiment from its position, and rested in the rear of the Thirty-third Iowa. About 3 a. m. I received orders to report with the regiment at brigade headquarters, then 1 mile on the road to the Saline. The men had marched the previous day without any rations, having been lying during the night in an exposed position, without sleeping an hour, and although a general engagement could every moment be expected to commence, it was necessary to allow the men to cook whatever they might have. Thus in the rear of the line of General Rice's brigade preparations for cooking were made, while the rattling of musketry at some distance made it doubtless that the enemy had commenced the attack. The Forty-third was ordered to form and to cross a deep creek with high steep banks, which runs in the [direction] of the position occupied by the right wing of First Brigade. When this movement was executed the engagement had become general over the whole line; the enemy, massing his forces, tried in succession every part of the line of our division.

Owing to the nature of the ground movements in force on the north side of the creek were impossible. The regiment was ordered to recross the creek, then after forming on the open field we marched forward to take our position in the second line of battle between the Fiftieth Indiana and Fortieth Iowa. Halting there for some time, it appears that the right wing First Brigade was hard pressed, and Captain Blocki, assistant adjutant-general, brought me orders from General Rice to relieve in that position the Ninth Wisconsin; but before I had marched many steps in the direction of the right wing the enemy appeared in great force on the left and in front of us, and I was ordered to remain. Right in front of the Forty-third Illinois stood the Thirty-third Iowa in the first line of battle, pouring volley after volley in the thick masses of the enemy, when an officer of this regiment informed me that their ammunition was near expended. I moved forward to relieve them.

After firing had, without intervals, lasted for half an hour the smoke became so dense, waving like a thick mass between the dark trees over the swampy ground, that it was impossible to see anything else at a distance of 20 yards, and although not authorized to change the position of the regiment, followed under these circumstances the demand to move forward, loudly expressed by officers and men, and with a hearty cheer the Forty-third rushed forward through the smoke over the ground yet lately occupied by the enemy's

solid column, now covered in many places by his dead and wounded. We advanced several hundred yards, sometimes halting and firing. Soon we found that the enemy had entirely withdrawn. We marched back to reoccupy our former position in the main line of battle, when Colonel Engelmann ordered me to move farther on in the direction of the river. Soon after we crossed the Saline and encamped on the high ground north of the river.

On the march as well as during the fight all officers and men of the regiment conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, and proved themselves worthy the reputation earned on other fields and worthy to be part of the infantry division, Seventh Army Corps. I owe my thanks, therefore, to all, but especially to Captain Shimminger, for the energetic manner in which he assisted me as second field officer, and to Adjt. Gustav Wagenfuehr, for gallantry and promptness with which he performed all duties of his position.*

I have the honor to be, captain, your most obedient servant,

ADOLPH DENGLER,

Lieut. Col., Comdg. Forty-third Regiment Illinois Vols.

Capt. W. E. FAY,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FORTY-THIRD ILLINOIS VOL. INFANTRY,

Little Rock, Ark., June —, 1864.

COLONEL: The regiment, Lieut. Col. Adolph Dengler commanding, was assigned March 13 to Third Brigade, Third Division, Red River expedition, Colonel Engelmann, Forty-third Illinois, commanding brigade, Brig. Gen. F. Salomon the division, and Maj. Gen. F. Steele the expedition in person. The expedition left Little Rock March 23. The country through which we passed was well watered, but of the most rugged character. The farms, few and far between, were either deserted or totally neglected. The many streams which we had to cross impeded the progress of the expedition considerably. The pontoon bridge had to be laid for the crossing of the Ouachita at Rockport, which place is very appropriately named, for here are rocks in piles, in crags, in all shapes and of all sizes, and the Ouachita, crystal clear, rolls bouncing in his rocky bed. We arrived at Arkadelphia on the 29th, having marched since the 23d but 75 miles. So far but very little resistance had been made by the enemy. Even Arkadelphia had been evacuated without offering any resistance. Here had been their principal army depots; here was a powder mill, different machine-shops, and the valuable saltpeter and salt works, from which a great part of Arkansas was drawing this indispensable article. Arkadelphia is situated high on a bluff on the Ouachita River. Everything in and around this place indicated its former prosperity, the fine residences a little dilapidated and neglected, perhaps, but still bearing signs of better times; its extensive trade, both by river and land, for the steamboats run on the Ouachita up to this place during two-thirds of the year, and it was also the great thoroughfare to Texas. The sterile lands and deserted farms which we had met thus far on our march gave way to a fertile country and cultivated lands; the marks of

*Nominal list of casualties (omitted) shows 3 men killed, 1 officer and 11 men wounded, and 1 man missing during the campaign.

war, although visible, were not so legibly written on this portion of the country as on that through which we had passed. After a few days' rest and waiting to effect a junction with General Thayer, who ought to have joined the expedition here with his frontier division from Fort Smith, we left Arkadelphia April 1, camping that night at Spoonville, 12 miles distant. The main road leads from Arkadelphia direct to Washington, but one branches off at a point about 9 miles from Spoonville. The enemy, not doubting but that the expedition would, with its large trains, have to keep the main road, had occupied the crossing of the Little Missouri in great force.

General Steele, having arrived at the forks of the road on the 2d, sent part of the cavalry forward on the main road as if he intended to keep on this with his whole army, which, however, turned in at the by-road, part of the forces pushing rapidly forward so as to secure the crossing of the Little Missouri at Elkin's Ferry, in which they succeeded completely. The enemy found out his mistake too late, and although he tried to dispute our crossing at this point he was, after a short engagement, dislodged. General Rice's brigade, having the rear and the large train in its charge, had (since we left Spoonville, the 2d) an almost continuous skirmish with Shelby's brigade, inflicting a severe loss on the enemy. We had but just arrived, at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at Okolona, a small village of only few houses, when we were attacked by the enemy. Companies E, F, H, and K were deployed as skirmishers, but the enemy quickly retired, Company K alone coming up with his skirmishers, exchanging several hundred shots with him without any casualties on our side. General Steele had determined to send Colonel Engelmann's brigade, to which the Forty-third Illinois belongs, the next day back to Spoonville to gather, if possible, some information about General Thayer, while the main army was to move forward for the purpose of crossing the Little Missouri.

The enemy hovered around our lines, skirmishing commencing on the morning of the 3d. Company D had been sent forward as skirmishers. Company B was sent next, and these had soon a brisk skirmish with the enemy. Here Corpl. John Rauth, Company B, was slightly wounded. At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon we had got in march toward Spoonville again, where we arrived the next day. We remained till the 5th, when no intelligence whatever having been gathered respecting General Thayer, the brigade moved back to rejoin the main army, which it reached the same evening after a fatiguing march of 22 miles. The enemy had been severely punished in the several skirmishes, for we found all along the road to Spoonville new-made graves, and in the houses his wounded and dying. Another noticeable feature was that when we had first come over the road but rarely a man had been seen in any of the houses, while when going back to Spoonville any number of young men were seen loitering about. This was noticed and commented upon by all. The day after rejoining the army, the 6th, we crossed the Little Missouri, and after having passed through a bottomless bottom for about 3 miles, and this only with great difficulty, we camped on the rising highland, where the enemy had felled trees and where some resistance had been made.

On the 9th, General Thayer came up, and on the 10th, the regiment, the brigade having the advance, left for Prairie D'Ane. Marching 4 miles in a due southern direction through a pine forest we approached the northern edge of Prairie D'Ane at 3 p. m. Like

an oasis lies this beautiful prairie in midst of dense forests and almost impassable swamps, a relief for the eye of the traveler, who has for many days hardly seen anything but rocks crowned by dark pines or the gloomy cypress swamp. The prairie, elevated above the surrounding country, rises gradually toward its center. A ridge running along the northern edge, slightly covered with brush, was occupied by a strong force of the enemy's sharpshooters, who kept up an annoying fire on our lines, they being well protected by the crest of the eminence and the low bushes, while we were standing low and without cover. Company B was deployed as skirmishers and soon were engaged, when I received orders to advance with the Forty-third and to drive the enemy from his position. The hearty cheer with which the men received the order to charge demonstrated how well the order corresponded with their heart's desire. In double-quick the regiment rushed forward, not stopping till the height was won, from which the rebels in haste fell back upon their main force. This we saw now half a mile farther south drawn up in a long line along the crest of another and somewhat higher ridge. I was ordered to halt, and soon the other regiments moved up and formed on our right and left. Now the enemy's battery opened and our artillery, especially Captain Vaughn's battery, replied promptly and with telling effect. For half an hour the artillery kept up a brisk fire, then a general advance was ordered, but as soon as our forces commenced ascending the slope of the hitherto contested ridge the enemy's lines began to waver. The Federal regiments vied with each other to reach the height, and again the Forty-third had the honor to pass first over the position just now deserted by the enemy, who, under cover of the twilight, hastily retreated in a southwestern direction toward that part of the prairie where the main road to Washington and Fulton on the Red River enters the wood. Night had already come when our line was formed in the new position, and there we rested on our arms.

At 8.30 the enemy planted two pieces of artillery behind the brow of the nearest ridge, half a mile distant and running parallel with the one occupied by us, and for about an hour a lively exchange of shells took place between the enemy and Vaughn's battery. Although our opponent's shells were thrown with great precision and exploded over and around us, I am happy to say that we had no wounded in the regiment. Gallant Lieutenant Thomas, of Vaughn's battery, was stunned for some time by a concussion from fragments of a shell exploding over his head. Toward midnight rebel cavalry, who had formed behind a grove of cottonwood trees, dashed suddenly with great gallantry over the prairie toward Vaughn's battery, attempting to capture the pieces, but they met with a hot reception and a bloody repulse. With the early daylight skirmishing commenced again. In the evening a reconnaissance with the whole army took place. The artillery exchanged few shots with the enemy, who was found strongly intrenched at the southwestern edge of the prairie, near Folk's plantation. During the night to the 12th of April we lay in the same position as the previous night. On the morning of the 12th, anxious to meet the rebels in their works, our army moved forward, keeping more in the direction toward the left of the line of fortifications. Now and then skirmishers became engaged, but when we came in sight of their rifle-pits, which extended for over 1½ miles along the highest ridge, just on the skirt of the forest, the enemy's skirmishers disappeared. Now our army as-

cended near the extreme left of the works, the slope in front of them. Our advance entered the intrenchments; the enemy was gone. It transpired that, judging from the route our army had marched, General Price had been entirely deceived as to the intention of our commander. The southwestern direction in which our army up to that time had been conducted almost convinced the rebel general that General Steele intended to approach the crossing of the Red River at Fulton by way of Washington. Some cavalry sent to harass his rear added to confirm Price in this belief; so for Washington, then, the rebels made in all haste, while we changed the direction of our march to the left, passing along the southern border. We left Prairie D'Ane on the road to Camden. Of three roads leading from Washington to Camden the one we took is the most northerly, via Moscow.

On the evening of the 12th, we camped near Terre Rouge Creek. Terre Rouge Creek bottom, which extends where we had to pass it about 7 miles, was considered almost impracticable for wagons. On the 13th, we entered this bottom. Our regiment had to escort the train. With no other but sometimes a very involuntary halt, when a team broke down and obstructed the narrow passage, or while part of the men built a corduroy road, which usually disappeared in the bottomless swamp before fifty wagons had passed over, we toiled and struggled on until noon the 14th, when we had behind us the last of these 7 miles of mire and swamp. Now the enemy had found out our changed route of march, and while he sent a part of his force to annoy our rear he hurried his main force on the road running south of our road and almost parallel with it in the same direction to reach the fortifications of Camden. Near the junction, about 12 miles west of Camden, the enemy appeared in force, stubbornly contesting the onward march of our advance, under General Rice, attempting to keep us at bay till the main part of his army, now moving on the road that leads via Woodlawn to Camden, would have reached that latter place. The nature of the ground did not admit the deployment of a large force, but General Rice succeeded finally to overthrow all obstacles, to force the enemy to retreat in confusion, and on the evening of the same day we reached the temporary place of our destination.

Camden, high on the banks of the Ouachita, is a strongly fortified town. It had been, up to our occupation, the headquarters of General Price. What has been said of Arkadelphia might be repeated here. It is, next to Little Rock, the largest and most prosperous town in the State. But our occupation of this beautiful place proved of short duration. Already on the 16th, our rations gave almost entirely out; the men had received but half rations of crackers ever since we left Little Rock; forage for the horses was all along very scarce, and on the 17th [18th] a large forage train of 180 wagons, which had been sent out some 12 miles west from Camden, was captured by the enemy near Junction. First Kansas, African descent, who were acting as escort to the train, fought bravely and heroically.

On the 19th, the Forty-third Illinois, the Fiftieth and Twenty-ninth Iowa, all under command of Col. Thomas H. Benton, jr., were sent out to meet a provision train, which had been sent from Pine Bluff for the army at Camden. That same evening, having marched about 17 miles, we met the train, with which we reached Camden on the 20th.

On the 23d, an empty train of 200 wagons, escorted by the Forty-

third Indiana, Thirty-sixth Iowa, and Seventy-seventh Ohio, left Camden for Pine Bluff to get supplies. The train was attacked by the enemy in overwhelming numbers. The greater part of these regiments, after a stubborn fight, were captured, as also the whole train. About this time intelligence reached us that General Banks' expedition against Shreveport was a failure; that he had been indeed driven back with loss, and that Kirby Smith himself was at the head of several divisions on his way to Camden to crush General Steele. It now became apparent that the army could not draw its supplies for any length of time from its base, which was so far distant as Pine Bluff, for the enemy could now throw with impunity a very large force in our rear, which he had done already so successfully, even before the re-enforcements from General Smith reached him. The evacuation of Camden, therefore, became an imperative necessity. The trains were taken across in the afternoon of the 26th; the same night the troops crossed, this regiment having the honor to cover the rear, and at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 27th, the pontoon was taken up and the army took up its line of march toward Little Rock. After an undisturbed march of 17 miles we camped for the night.

Reached Princeton the next day, the 28th, leaving there on the 29th, the brigade having the rear. When about 8 miles from Princeton the rear was attacked. Some companies were deployed and left as a support to a section of Vaughn's battery, while the others moved on. Having arrived to within 3 miles of the Saline the regiment, with a section of Vaughn's battery, was left on a ridge, the last piece of high ground before entering the bottom. The regiment was formed behind a crest of the ridge, the first battalion to the right, the second to the left of the section of artillery. From each company a few men were sent forward as skirmishers; they were soon engaged in a brisk fire with those of the enemy, who had in the meanwhile made their appearance. The skirmishing continued until dark, when the regiment was relieved by the Thirty-third Iowa, in the rear of which regiment we rested for the night. At 3 o'clock the next morning, the 30th, the regiment was ordered about 1 mile to the rear. The men had marched the previous day without any rations, had lain during the night in an exposed position, and although a general engagement could at any moment be expected, it was necessary to allow the men to cook whatever little they did have. Thus in the rear of the line of General Rice's brigade preparations for cooking were made, while the rattling of musketry at some distance made it doubtless that the enemy had commenced the attack. The Forty-third Illinois was ordered to cross a deep creek, with high steep banks, which runs in the direction of the position occupied by the right wing of General Rice's brigade. While executing this movement the engagement had become general over the whole line. The enemy massing his forces, far outnumbering ours, tried in succession every part of the line of our division.

Owing to the nature of the ground movements in force on the north side of the creek were impossible, and the regiment was ordered to recross it. After having then formed on an open field the regiment moved forward to take its position in the second line of battle, between the Fiftieth Indiana and Fortieth Iowa. Halting in this position for some time it appears that the right wing of the first brigade was hard pressed, and Capt. A. Blocki, assistant adjutant-general, brought orders from General Rice to relieve in that

position the Ninth Wisconsin, but before the regiment had moved many steps in direction of the right wing the enemy appeared in great force on the left and in front of us, and we were ordered to remain in this position. Right in front of the Forty-third Illinois stood the Thirty-third Iowa in the first line of battle, pouring volley after volley into the thick masses of the enemy, when an officer of this regiment informed me that their ammunition was nearly expended. I moved forward to relieve them. After firing had lasted some half an hour the smoke became so dense, waving like a thick mass between the dark trees over the swampy ground, that it was impossible to see anything at a distance of 20 yards; and although not authorized to change the position of the regiment in the line of battle, I followed, under these circumstances, the demand to move forward, loudly expressed by officers and men, and with a hearty cheer the Forty-third Illinois rushed forward through the smoke over the ground but lately occupied by the enemy's solid columns, now covered everywhere with his dead and wounded. We advanced several hundred yards, sometimes halting and firing and advancing again. We soon found that the enemy had entirely withdrawn, and then returned again to our former position in the main line of battle, when Colonel Engelmann ordered the regiment to move on in the direction of the river. We soon crossed the Saline and camped on the high ground north of the river, and the battle of Jenkins' Ferry was over.

But to show against what odds this battle was fought it is necessary to state here that the enemy, having driven General Banks back, had hurried part of his exultant force, flushed with victory, in forced marches from the banks of the Red River to the Ouachita, and following General Steele's army from there came up with it on the 30th of April, while the greater part of our forces had already crossed the Saline River, and only General Salomon's division and a few regiments of General Thayer's remaining still on the south side of it.

Owing to the incessant rain during part of the 29th and the morning of the 30th, the roads in the Saline bottom had become almost impassable; our trains and artillery stuck in the mud and swamps along the road from the rear of General Salomon's division to the river for about 2 miles, and then if they did move it was but for a few paces, when they stuck again. General Kirby Smith commanded in person, hurling his solid columns on General Salomon's division and attacked furiously, but desperate as was the assault the enemy was repulsed with severe loss at every point. Every soldier (and this equally applies to the black as well as the white) did his duty fully and nobly, not an inch of ground being yielded. When at length the enemy had been completely repulsed and the trains had moved across the Saline, then the troops, who till then held the battle-field, also crossed the river. Our loss in this battle was 700, while that of the enemy was frightful, amounting to over 2,000. We had in this battle not more than 4,000 men, while the enemy had, according to their statement, over 20,000 at and near the battle-field. Walker's division, which had been in the battles fought against Banks, and which had there borne a conspicuous and, for them, a glorious part, had been hurried from that victorious battle-field to one of still greater promise, for the total annihilation of General Steele's army was their object, which would at once have put them again in possession of all of Arkansas, but they were defeated under the very eye of Gen-

eral Smith. Besides some prisoners we also captured 3 cannons, 2 of which were captured by the Second Kansas, African descent. Not a cannon shot was fired from our side during the battle. On the 1st, many wagons not absolutely necessary were destroyed, as the roads continued still impassable. The cannons had often to be pulled through the mire by the men, but not one was lost on the retreat, and on the 3rd of May the infantry reached Little Rock again. The men had gone through privations and hardships of the severest kind, but had borne them cheerfully and with a never-wavering courage. I will here give but one item. The Forty-third Illinois had present at Camden on the 26th April 428 enlisted men, for whom on that day the following provisions were drawn: For April 27, 28, 29, and 30, coffee, three-fourths rations; salt, full rations; sugar, full rations; bacon, one-fourth rations; pilot bread, 129 pounds, and 5 bushels corn meal. And for May 1 and 2, the following: One hundred pounds of coffee and 65 pounds of bacon.

On the march as well as during the fight all officers and men of the regiment have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, and proved themselves worthy of the reputation earned on other fields and worthy to be part of the Infantry Division, Seventh Army Corps. I owe my thanks, therefore, to all, but especially to Capt. Samuel Shimminger, for the energetic manner in which he assisted me as second field officer, and to Adjt. Gustav Wagenfuehr, for gallantry and promptness with which he performed all duties of his position.

I would here beg leave to respectfully remark that the majorship is made vacant by the resignation of Charles Stephani, and would earnestly recommend to you Capt. Samuel Shimminger for this position; for this gentleman not only is senior line officer and therefore the first claimant by seniority, but his other qualities are such as to merit for him this position as a slight acknowledgment and reward for past services.

I have the honor to transmit you herewith a list of the casualties* of the Forty-third Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers during the expedition; as also a map† showing the route pursued by our army, under the command of Maj. Gen. F. Steele, from March 23 till May 3, 1864.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADOLPH DENGLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Forty-third Illinois.

Col. ALLEN C. FULLER,
Adjutant-General of Illinois.

No. 21.

Reports of Col. John A. Garrett, Fortieth Iowa Infantry, of skirmish at Okolona, skirmish at Prairie D'Ane, and engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HDQRS. FORTIETH IOWA INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
Near Elkin's Ferry, Little Missouri River, April 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the skirmish with the enemy at Okolona on the 3d instant: At 9 a. m., as

* See foot-note, p. 731. † Not found.

the brigade was about ready to start back to Spoonville, a sharp fire was opened on our picket-line. My regiment was ordered into line by direction of Colonel Engelmann, commanding brigade. I sent out a company of skirmishers. Capt. F. T. Campbell, of Company B, immediately moved with his company, and deployed them in the woods to the right. Advancing a short distance they met the enemy in the brush and behind logs, and by a few well-directed shots drove them back, following cautiously and firing as opportunity offered. About noon the enemy made a strong effort to advance and compelled Captain Campbell to fall back a little toward the foot of the hill in a rather unfavorable position. The enemy poured upon our lines a heavy fire at this time, and Private Samuel S. Roberts, Company B, was wounded—shot in the left side, ball passing through and lodging in his knapsack. Captain Campbell now took up his reserve, strengthened his line, and formed a new reserve from Company I, on picket duty. He now advanced, and drove the enemy back again. The firing continued until after 2 p. m., when the enemy retired. Companies A, F, D, and I of my regiment were on picket, and took part more or less in the engagement during the day. Company B, and the companies on picket, of my regiment, fired some 250 rounds, with what result is not known, but the enemy was driven back, it is thought with the loss of several men and horses. Roberts' wound, though severe, I think is not dangerous. He was brought in and attended to at once by Surg. N. R. Cornell, of this regiment. Officers and men did credit to themselves by their coolness and determination. On the night of the same day Sergt. David A. Tanner, of Company C, in the extreme advance of the brigade on the march to Spoonville, was fired at and wounded in the calf of the leg by a rifle or musket shot. Several shots were fired at him. The wound, though painful, is not dangerous, and is an honorable mark of his daring, his coolness, and his devotion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. GARRETT,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. William E. Fay,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Hdqrs. Fortieth Iowa Infantry Volunteers,
Camden, Ark., April 18, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Fortieth Iowa in the engagement of Prairie D'Ane, on Sunday, the 10th instant: About 3 p. m. the Third Brigade, Colonel Engelmann commanding, came in full view of the enemy's skirmishers, deployed in the undergrowth and among the scattering trees in the edge of the prairie. By direction of Colonel Engelmann, I immediately formed line on the right of Captain Vaughn's (Third Illinois) battery, and threw out companies A and F to the front and right as skirmishers, under command of First Lieutenants Anderson, of A, and Kennedy, of F. Company A was deployed. They at once passed through and beyond, relieving a line of dismounted cavalry which had been previously deployed, and were soon engaged with the enemy. I now received an order from Colonel Engelmann to advance my line, a part deployed. By direction, Major Smith moved

forward the left wing as skirmishers, each company having its own reserve, Captain Campbell commanding Company B; Captain Sennet, Company E; First Lieutenant Amos, Company H; First Lieutenant Christie, Company K, and First Sergeant Baird, Company G. The major was directed to connect with Companies A and F if practicable. He moved at once, effected the junction, and continued to advance, joining the skirmishers of the Forty-third Illinois on the left. I moved forward the other companies in line to act as a reserve, or to be thrown forward, as the case might demand. Having advanced a short distance, I received an order to push forward and take the high ground, which the enemy's skirmishers now held. I now moved rapidly down a gentle slope through the timber, pushing up the company reserve of the advance, closely followed by the companies in line, and, having crossed a little branch, came to more open and ascending ground. At this time Major Smith ordered the skirmishers on the double-quick, and up they went with a rush and a shout, and took the enemy's position. The firing was so warm and so close that the enemy gave way and fled to their line of battle, about three-quarters of a mile in rear of their skirmish line, which my regiment now occupied in one line, having advanced about half a mile. The high ground gained, a halt was made, and in a few moments the enemy opened a sharp fire of shot and shell with a fine range on my regiment and directly on our flag. Captain Vaughn's battery moved up through my line and opened fire on the enemy. The firing on both sides was now lively, the enemy's bearing directly on my regiment. After a few shots the range was changed, and after an hour's fight the enemy fell back. A second advance was now ordered. I directed Major Smith to throw forward Companies A, H, and D as skirmishers, D under First Lieutenant Edmundson, which he did at once, connecting with a company of the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin on the left. On the right of the Twenty-seventh I advanced my regiment in line over the prairie down a gentle slope, crossed a little stream skirted with timber, and again struck rising ground, when the enemy opened fire again, which our skirmishers returned, continuing to advance. At dusk the brigade, having gained the crest of the rise on which the enemy was in line during the artillery fight, was halted for the night. My skirmishers were withdrawn, pickets thrown out, and Company I sent out on the right to connect with the cavalry force. We lay on our arms, the enemy keeping up the fire with musketry, shot, and shell at intervals. At one time, near midnight, they pressed us so closely that a part of my pickets were driven in, when a few shots from my regiment and the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, and a volley from Captain Vaughn's battery, sent them off for the night. The casualties (all wounded) were as follows: In the line of skirmishers, first advance, Private Anthonus J. Butin, Company E, flesh wound, severe, during the night; First. Lieut. Caleb J. Amos, Company H, in the calf of the leg, slight; Private Joseph S. Stone, Company F, in thigh, severe; Corpl. John J. Wade, Company I, in the right arm, amputated, and since dead; Private Jesse L. Anderson, Company I, in thigh, severe. In addition, Second Lieut. James W. Ward, Company I, and Private John Klinker, Company B, were struck with spent balls and bruised, though not injured. The following persons were missing: John H. Lappella, Company E. in action 12 miles west of Camden on the 18th of April, with forage train; Charles Johnson, Company H, in action 12 miles west of Camden, on the 18th of April, with

forage train; Second Lieut. James W. Ward, Company I, in action at Moro Creek, with train on detail to Little Rock, April 25. The regiment, officers and men, behaved well—I might say splendidly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. GARRETT,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. William E. Fay,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Hdqrs. Fortieth Iowa Infantry Volunteers,
Little Rock, Ark., May 6, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry on Saturday, the 30th of April, 1864: On the march on the 29th, my regiment was in the rear and was exposed to the fire of the enemy for miles before reaching camp; after which time, besides the usual picket detail, four of my companies were deployed as skirmishers and were engaged at intervals with the enemy till dark, and during the entire night the most vigilant watch was kept by every officer and man of these companies. At daylight we were relieved by the Thirty-third Iowa, Colonel Mackey, when I moved my regiment forward a mile and halted in the edge of an open field, facing our late rear, my right resting on the road. About 7 o'clock firing commenced, and steadily grew warmer and came closer, till it became evident the enemy was advancing in force, determined to give battle. At 8 o'clock, by direction of Colonel Engelmann, commanding brigade, I threw out Companies B and F, under Captain Campbell, to the left and front as skirmishers. They moved into the woods some distance to watch, and, if necessary, engage the enemy. By direction I now moved my regiment forward to within a short distance of the advance line, now engaged with the enemy, my right resting on the road. In a few minutes, as directed, Major Smith with the four right companies crossed the road, leaving Companies A and D, under Lieutenant Anderson, to support a section of Captain Vaughn's battery occupying the road. The major moved Companies C and I across a narrow, deep stream, passed over an open field and deployed them in the woods, to observe and, if opportunity offered, engage the left flank of the enemy. Colonel Engelmann now directed me to move to the left and front with my four companies, H, E, K, and G, and form on the left of our forces now engaged, as they were hard pressed. As the most expeditious, I moved by the left flank. At this time so great a number from our engaged line were retreating in disorder and haste it looked almost like a panic. On nearing the left of the line, a force as large or larger than my own was retreating in line. Arriving near where the left of this retiring force had rested I filed to the left, then moved to the front till a little in advance of the line on the right, halted and opened fire. While getting in position the fire of the enemy was pouring on my little command, and now we were not only on the extreme left, but some distance from the left of the line on the right. In a short time I moved my companies forward and to the right, joining some companies of the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin, which also advanced, and of which the officers and men were doing their whole duty. The line now advanced, making short halts, then mov-

ing forward. After advancing a short distance we began to pass over the enemy's dead, and my men moved right on with a shout, pouring in a well-directed fire on the retreating enemy. The line having advanced a half mile or more, the fire of the enemy ceased and a halt was called. About this time the Twelfth Kansas came up on my left. My men, out of cartridges, now resupplied themselves from boxes brought on horseback, which they opened with their bayonets.

The colonel of the Twelfth Kansas having been wounded, the captain commanding, fearing a flank movement on his left, fell back some 200 yards. After half an hour's lull, the enemy, with heavy re-enforcements, moved up in close range and opened fire again. Our whole line now became engaged, and the firing on both sides was heavy; some say terrific. My little command was under cross-fire, receiving, I think, the concentrated fire of two regiments which, having moved up by the flanks, met and formed directly in my front. My men were falling fast, but held their ground, not yielding an inch. I sent for the Twelfth Kansas to come up on my left; it moved, but halted 50 yards short of the line and opened fire. I went back and moved it up in line, when it poured a splendid volley right into the ranks of the enemy, and thus relieving in part my command from the terrible fire which was wasting it so fast. This last engagement lasted about an hour, till 12.30 o'clock, when the enemy fell back, then withdrew, leaving our little army the field—the victors.

I lost, out of less than 100 men, 6 killed, 34 wounded (some mortally, many severely), 4 captured, and 1 missing, a full list of which has been reported.

In common with officers and men I regretted that all my companies could not go into the engagement together. I may here state that my men had drawn no bread for five days; that they had a coffee supper on the night of the 29th; a coffee breakfast, a part getting a little meat, on the morning of the battle; that it rained almost a flood during the night of the 29th and morning of the 30th; that the battle was fought in Saline Bottom, covered by a heavy forest; and that mud and mire and sheets of water were everywhere. My men fired from 60 to 100 rounds each. N. R. Cornell, my surgeon, did all in his power to care for the wounded. Lieutenant Baird was wounded, while fearlessly doing his duty in the hottest of the fight. My color-bearer, Mortimer W. Nelson, as brave a man as ever bore a flag, was shot in the shoulder and fell. Out of four, two color guards, Corporals Davis and Bare, fell severely wounded, and I regret to say Davis was left on the field. Lieutenant Amos commanded Company H; Captain Sennet, Company E, Lieutenant Christie, Company K, and Captain Jordan, Company G. Officers and men fought with the cool determination of veterans, and with the desperate valor of men appreciating that all was at stake on the result. One noble sergeant, Simmons, of Company H, shot in the breast, when his lieutenant told him the enemy was beaten, waved his hand and died with a smile.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. GARRETT,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. WILLIAM E. FAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 22.

Report of Col. Conrad Krez, Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, of skirmish at Okolona.

HDQRS. TWENTY-SEVENTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY,
Camp near Elkin's Ferry, Ark., April 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report, when, on the 3d of April, 1864, in camp at Okolona, the picket-line was attacked by the enemy, two of my companies were on picket, and seven were detached and stationed at different points to support the line, by the order of the colonel commanding brigade, leaving one company in camp. At about 11 a. m. I was ordered to collect the companies and to clear the woods for about 2 miles, if possible. When I had collected three, besides the company in reserve in camp, I marched them deployed in line along the foot of the hill on which we were encamped, where I discovered the enemy to the left, where I supposed the rest of my companies stationed between me and them, and commanding part of the road. The pickets here had fallen back for cover to the other side of the road. I ordered a forward movement. We cleared the rise of the ground, which was covered with an almost impenetrable thicket of hawthorn. The enemy fell back to the other side of a clearing on high ground, and the ravine dividing that clearing from another hill running parallel with the road, where they maintained a heavy fire immediately in front of the three companies deployed by me, and at that time opened with artillery and threw grape and canister to the right of Company G. The enemy was well covered by large timber at the edge of the open fields on the right and left, which we could not cross without heavy loss of life. On the right we had the support of a squad of the Fortieth Iowa Volunteers, of 15 men and 2 sergeants, who fought with the companies on the right. Company G, leaving 2 dead on the field, was compelled to fall back, and in order to prevent the other two companies from being outflanked I ordered them to retreat far enough to re-establish the line on the rise of the ground, where we first met the enemy's fire. A comparatively strong force of the enemy was at the same time observed moving to the extreme left of my line. On sending word to the colonel commanding, two companies of the Seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteers came to the support of my left. A heavy thunder-storm broke out and interrupted further operations. After that I was enabled to ascertain the position of my companies to the right, and I gave directions to the right and to the left of the line so to move as to outflank them, and as soon as the general movement of my whole line began, the enemy withdrew, firing four or five stray shots from the bottom of the ravine. Between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon the woods were cleared of the enemy, according to order. I lost 3 killed—Private Safra Vilett, of Company A; William Anding and Patrick Knox, of Company G—on the field, whom we buried at Okolona, and 3 wounded, 1 private, Cassander Knowles, of Company K, who has since died; 1 private, Christian Gunderson, of Company H, severely, and 1 private, Thron Olsen, slightly.

Respectfully, yours,

CONRAD KREZ,
Colonel Twenty-seventh Regt. Wisconsin Vol. Infy.

Capt. WILLIAM E. FAY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 23.

Itinerary of First Brigade, Frontier Division, for April, 1864.*

April 13.—The brigade was engaged in action against the forces of the enemy under command of Generals Maxey and Dockery, at Moscow, Ark. The action commenced at 1 p. m. and lasted until 5 p. m. The Second Indiana Battery fired 210 shots (solid and shell) and used grape and canister with good effect. The enemy were repulsed and driven 4 miles, when the brigade, under cover of night, withdrew and resumed the advance. Marched all night through a swamp. The loss on our side was 7 killed and 24 wounded.

April 18.—One section of the Second Indiana Battery and Eighteenth Iowa Infantry were ordered out in support of a forage train to Poison Spring, Ark., and was overwhelmed by the enemy; the section of battery was captured. The loss in killed, wounded, and missing was 83.

April 30.—The First and Second Arkansas Infantry were engaged in the action at Jenkins' Ferry, on Saline River.

No. 24.

Report of Col. James M. Williams, First Kansas Colored Infantry, commanding detachment Frontier Division, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMDEN, ARK., *April* 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of foraging expedition under my command: In obedience to verbal orders received from Brigadier-General Thayer, I left Camden, Ark., on the 17th instant with the following force, viz: 500 of the First Kansas Colored Volunteers, commanded by Major Ward; 50 of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Henderson; 75 of the Second Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Mitchell; 70 of the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Utt; one section of the Second Indiana Battery, commanded by Lieutenant Haines; in all, 695 men and two guns, with a forage train of 198 wagons.

I proceeded westerly on the Washington road a distance of 18 miles, where I halted the train and dispatched parts of it in different directions to load, 100 wagons, with a large part of the command under Major Ward, being sent 6 miles beyond the camp. These wagons returned to camp at midnight, nearly all loaded with corn. At sunrise on the 18th, the command started on the return, loading the balance of the train as it proceeded. There being but few wagon loads of corn to be found at any one place, I was obliged to detach portions of the command in different directions to load the wagons, until nearly my whole available force was so employed. At a point known as Cross-Roads, 4 miles east from my camping-ground, I met a re-enforcement of the following force, viz: Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, 375 men, Captain Duncan; Sixth Kansas Cavalry, 25 men, Lieutenant Phillips; Second Kansas Cavalry, 45 men, Lieutenant

* From monthly return.

Ross; Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, 20 men, Lieutenant Smith, and two mountain howitzers from the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, Lieutenant Walker; in all, 465 men and two howitzers, which, added to my former force, made my whole command consist of 875 infantry, 285 cavalry, and four guns. But the excessive fatigue of the preceding day, coming as it did at the close of a toilsome march of twenty-four days without halting, had so worn upon the infantry that fully 100 of the First Kansas (colored) were rendered unfit for duty. Many of the cavalry had, in violation of orders, straggled from their commands, so that at this time my effective force did not exceed 1,000 men.

At a point 1 mile east of this my advance came upon a picket of the enemy, which was driven back for 1 mile, when a line of the enemy's skirmishers presented itself. Here I halted the train, formed a line of the small force I then had in advance, and ordered that portion of the First Kansas Colored Volunteers which had previously been guarding the rear of the train to the front, and gave orders for the train to be parked as closely as the nature of the ground would permit. I also opened a fire upon the enemy's line from the section of Second Indiana Battery, for the double purpose of ascertaining, if possible, if the enemy had any artillery in position in front, and also to draw in some foraging parties which had previously been dispatched upon either flank of the train. No response was elicited save a brisk fire from the enemy's skirmishers. Meanwhile the remainder of the First Kansas Colored Volunteers had come to the front, as also those detachments of cavalry which formed part of the original escort, which I formed in line, facing to the front, with detachment Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry on my left, and detachments Second and Sixth Kansas Cavalry on the right flank. I also sent orders to Captain Duncan, commanding Eighteenth Iowa Volunteers, to so dispose of his regiment and the cavalry and howitzers which came out with him as to protect the rear of the train, and to keep a sharp lookout for a movement upon his rear and right flank. Meanwhile a movement of the enemy's infantry toward my right flank had been observed through the thick brush, which covered the surface of the country in that direction. Seeing this, I ordered forward the cavalry on my right, under Lieutenants Mitchell and Henderson, with orders to press the enemy's line, force it if possible, and at all events to ascertain his position and strength, fearing, as I did, that the silence of the enemy in front was but for the purpose of drawing me on into the open ground which lay in my front. At this juncture a rebel soldier rode into my lines and inquired for Colonel De Morse. From him I learned that General Price was in command of the rebel force, and that Colonel De Morse was in command of a force on my right. The cavalry had advanced but 400 yards, when a brisk fire of musketry was opened upon them from the brush, which they returned with true gallantry, but were forced to fall back. In this skirmish many of the cavalry were unhorsed, and Lieutenant Henderson fell, wounded in the abdomen, while gallantly urging his men forward. In the mean time I formed five companies of the First Kansas Colored Volunteers with one piece of artillery on my right flank, and ordered up to their assistance four companies of the Eighteenth Iowa. Soon my orderly returned from the rear with a message from Captain Duncan, stating that he was so closely pressed in the rear by the enemy's infantry and artillery that the men could not be spared.

At this moment the enemy opened upon me with two batteries, one of six pieces in front, and one of three pieces on my right flank, pouring in an incessant and well-directed cross-fire of shot and shell. At the same time he advanced his infantry both in front and on my right flank. From the force of the enemy, now for the first time made visible, I saw that I could not hope to defeat him; but still I resolved to defend the train to the last, hoping that re-enforcements would come up from Camden. I suffered them to approach within 100 yards of my lines, when I opened upon them with musketry charged with buck and ball, and after a contest of fifteen minutes' duration compelled them to fall back. Two fresh regiments, however, coming up, they again rallied and advanced against my lines, this time with colors flying and continuous cheering, so loud as to drown even the roar of the musketry. Again I suffered them to approach even nearer than before, and opened upon them with buck and ball, their artillery still pouring in a cross-fire of shot and shell over the heads of their infantry, and mine replying with vigor and effect; and for another quarter of an hour the fight raged with desperate fury, and the noise and din of battle of this almost hand-to-hand conflict was the loudest and most terrific it has ever been my lot to listen to. Again were they forced to fall back, and twice during this contest were their colors brought to the ground, but as often raised.

During these contests fully one-half of my infantry engaged were either killed or wounded. Three companies were left without an officer, and seeing the enemy again re-enforced with fresh troops it became evident that I could hold my line but little longer. I directed Major Ward to hold that line until I could ride back and form the Eighteenth Iowa in proper form to support the retreat of this advanced line. Meanwhile, so many of the gunners having been shot from around their pieces as to leave too few men to serve the guns, I ordered them to retire to the rear of the train and report to the commanding officer there. Just as I was starting for the line of the Eighteenth Iowa my horse was shot, and caused a delay long enough to obtain and mount another one, which done, I rode to the rear and formed a line of battle facing the direction in which the enemy was advancing. Again did the enemy hurl his columns against the remnant of men which formed my front and right flank, and again were they met as gallantly as before. But my decimated ranks were unable to resist the overpowering force hurled against my line, and after a check had been given their advance, seeing that our line was completely flanked on both sides, Major Ward gave the order to retire, which was done in good order, forming and checking the enemy twice before reaching the rear of the train. With the assistance of Major Ward and other officers I succeeded in forming a portion of First Colored Regiment in rear of the Eighteenth Iowa, and when the enemy approached this line they gallantly advanced to the line of the Eighteenth Iowa, and with them poured in their fire. The Eighteenth Iowa maintained their line manfully, and stoutly contested the ground until nearly surrounded, when they retired, and, forming again, checked the advancing foe, and still held their ground until again nearly surrounded, when they again retired across a ravine which was impassable for artillery, and I gave orders for the pieces to be spiked and abandoned. After crossing this ravine I succeeded in forming a portion of the cavalry, which I kept in line in order to give the infantry time to

reach the swamp which lay in our front, which they succeeded in doing, and by this means nearly all except the badly wounded were enabled to reach camp. Many wounded men belonging to the First Kansas Colored Volunteers fell into the hands of the enemy, and I have the most positive assurances from eye-witnesses that they were murdered on the spot. The action was commenced at 10 a. m. and terminated at 2 p. m. I was forced to abandon everything to the enemy, and they thereby became possessed of this large train, two 6-pounder guns, and two 12-pounder mountain howitzers. With what force could be collected I made my way to this post, where I arrived at 11 p. m. of the same day.

At no time during the engagement, such was the nature of the ground and the size of the train, was I able to employ more than 500 men and two guns to repel the assaults of the enemy, whose force I estimate at 10,000 men and twelve guns, from the statements of prisoners. The columns of assault which were thrown against my front and right flank consisted of five regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, supported by a strong force which moved upon my left flank and rear. I have named this engagement the action of Poison Spring, from a spring of that name in the vicinity.

My loss during the engagement is as follows: Killed, 92; wounded, 97; missing, 106. Many of those reported missing are supposed to be killed. Others are supposed to be wounded and prisoners. The loss of the enemy is not known, but in my opinion it will much exceed our own.

The conduct of all the troops under my command, officers and men, was characterized by true soldierly bearing, and in no case was a line broken except when assaulted by an overwhelming force, and then falling back only when so ordered. The gallant dead, officers and men, all evinced the most heroic spirit, and died the death of true soldiers.

Very respectfully,

J. M. WILLIAMS,
Col. First Kansas Colored Vols., Comdg. Escort.

Capt. WILLIAM S. WHITTEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Revised list of troops engaged and casualties in the action at Poison Spring, Ark., April 18, 1864.

Troops engaged.	Officers and men.	Killed and missing.	Wounded.
1st Kansas Colored Volunteers	438	a 117	65
18th Iowa Infantry Volunteers	383	59	21
2d Kansas Cavalry	122	15	6
6th Kansas Cavalry	77	1	1
14th Kansas Cavalry	92	9	.....
2d Indiana Battery (two guns)	33	1	4
6th Kansas Cavalry (detachment, two howitzers)	25	2	.....
Total	1,170	204	97

a Killed.

Captured by the enemy: Second Indiana Battery, 2 10-pounder field guns; Sixth Kansas Cavalry, 2 12-pounder mountain howitzers; quartermaster's stores, 198 teams and wagons.

ADDENDA.

HDQRS. ARK. EXPDN., OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

Colonel WILLIAMS,
First Kansas (Colored), Seventh Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report, in pursuance of your request, as to the number of wagons composing the forage train which left this post under your escort on the 17th instant:

From—	Wagons.
Supply train	113
Third Division	29
Cavalry division	20
Thayer's division	36
Total	198

Lieutenant Smith has made no official report, but has informed me verbally that thirty-six wagons were sent from Thayer's division.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. A. HENRY,
Capt. and Asst. Q. M., Chief Quartermaster Ark. Expdn.

No. 25.

Report of Lieut. Barnett B. Mitchell, Second Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMDEN, ARK., *April 20, 1864.*

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions contained in your circular dated Camden, April 19, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following statement regarding the detachment of Second Kansas Cavalry under my command:

I left camp on the morning of the 18th instant with 75 enlisted men of the Second Kansas Cavalry. When I reported to you for duty you ordered me to detach one sergeant and 20 men as rear guard, to be subject to the orders of the officer commanding the infantry portion of the same; the others, 54 men, you directed to be thrown on each side of the train as flankers. My loss in killed, wounded, and missing, is as follows:*

During the engagement my detachment was necessarily so scattered that I cannot say what they did or did not. Those that were with me behaved well and stood their ground as long as any men could without falling into the hands of the enemy.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
BARNETT B. MITCHELL,
First Lieut., Second Kansas Cavalry, Comdg. Detachment.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Escort.

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 man killed, 4 men wounded, and 8 men missing.

No. 26.

Report of Lieut. Edward Ross, Second Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMP SECOND KANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions from brigade headquarters (Third Brigade, Frontier Division), I reported to you on the 18th instant, with a detachment of 45 men from Second Kansas Cavalry, which was engaged in the action of the 18th instant. The loss from my detachment is as follows, viz:*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

EDWARD ROSS,
Lieut. Company I, Second Kansas Cav., Comdg. Detach.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Seventy-ninth U. S. Colored Infantry.

No. 27.

Report of Lieut. Richard L. Phillips, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMP OF SIXTH KANSAS, *April* 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report: On the 17th of April, 1864, I was detailed, with 25 men belonging to different companies of the Sixth Regiment Kansas Cavalry, for the purpose of re-enforcing Colonel Williams. My men were in the advance of the force sent out and were continually skirmishing with the enemy after leaving our pickets until going into camp for the night. We saw at no time more than 50 of the enemy. We went into camp about 10 miles from Camden. Sent to Colonel Williams to know if we should advance. He said for us to remain. During the night our camp was not disturbed. The following morning moved 2 miles farther and remained until the train had passed, when Colonel Williams detailed 20 of my men to go 2 miles on the Washington road as escort to ten wagons for the purpose of getting corn. While on this duty the fight commenced. I then had the rest of my men go into the timber at the right of the road as skirmishers in rear of the train. They soon came back and reported a regiment of infantry and two pieces of artillery immediately in front of them. Our cavalry then formed on the right of the Eighteenth Iowa Regiment and remained until the colored regiment and section of Rabb's battery had been routed and had fallen back to the rear of the train.

I then was ordered by Colonel Williams to form what men I had and assist his men that were wounded to get away, if possible, during which time my men acted as well as men could act under the circumstances; for the enemy were following the negroes and pouring a heavy fire into their ranks until sheltered by the timber. I remained with Colonel Williams and his men until we arrived at Camden. I

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 2 men wounded and 6 men missing.

am satisfied that the train was surrounded on three sides before the fighting commenced. The two pieces of artillery on the right of the road at the rear of the train were not used by the enemy during the engagement. I lost no men from my command.

Respectfully, yours,

R. L. PHILLIPS,
Second Lieut. Company C, Sixth Kansas Vol. Cav.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Escort to Train.

No. 28.

Report of Lieut. Anson J. Walker, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMP NEAR CAMDEN, *April* 20, 1864.

COLONEL: I would respectfully report the part taken by a section of howitzers attached to the Sixth Regiment Kansas Volunteer Cavalry in an engagement with the enemy on the 18th instant: First. Number of commissioned officers present, 1; number of enlisted men, 24. Second. Private Christopher C. Goodman, Company D, Sixth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and attached to and doing duty with a section of howitzers attached to the Sixth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, was killed in the early part of the engagement. Private Henry Gable, Company K, Sixth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, and attached to and doing duty with a section of howitzers attached to the Sixth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, is missing, supposed to be a prisoner. Third. I was ordered with my command, in conjunction with the Eighteenth Iowa Infantry and detachments of the Second, Sixth, and Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, all under command of Captain Duncan, of Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, to re-enforce the escort to the forage train under command of Colonel Williams, First Kansas Colored Infantry, and proceeded with them to camp, about 12 miles from Camden. I brought the section into battery three times on the march, our cavalry skirmishing nearly all the way to camp. I did not fire a shot, it not being necessary. On the morning of the 18th, I moved on with the command until we met the train, distant about 3 miles. I then, after the train had passed, took my position in the rear with the rear guard, and moved on a short distance when firing commenced in front. I took my position three times on the right of road, facing to the front, but was each time ordered farther to the right. I was then ordered to fall back to the left of the road, facing to left. I remained there until our forces commenced falling back in disorder, when I was ordered to fall back to the hill in our rear, where I remained until ordered to retreat, the enemy pouring in a heavy fire from our right. I did so, and fell back about one-quarter of a mile, when we came to a creek where it was impossible to get the guns over, and I was obliged to abandon the guns, spiking while under a severe fire from the enemy. The men under my command behaved well.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. WALKER,
First Lieut., Comdg. Howitzer Detach. Sixth Kans. Vol. Cav.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding First Kansas Colored Infantry.

No. 29.

Report of Lieut. Josephus Utt, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMDEN, ARK., *April* 20, 1864.

SIR: In answer to circular dated April 19, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following as my report: First. Josephus Utt, first lieutenant, K Company, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, commanding detachment comprised of details from Squadrons A, C, E, H, I, and K—mounted, 50; dismounted, 20; total, 70. On the morning of the 18th instant, First Lieutenant Smith, Company C, Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, reported to the escort with 20 mounted men; total, 90 men and 2 commissioned officers of the Fourteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Second. Missing since the engagement on the 18th instant.* Third. The conduct of the officers and men was good under the trying circumstances, being outnumbered eight or nine to one, and entirely surrounded, none being daunted; continued fighting with the most daring heroism, determined not to surrender, preferring death. After the right and left wings were broken and driven in and almost entirely surrounded, a galling cross-fire broke the columns and it was impossible to form another line at the rear of the train. Many heroic efforts were made by the officers and men, though the result was so evident to all. A line was partly formed where the charging columns of the enemy were so numerous and their fire so destructive that it was again abandoned. The entire train being sourrounded, and almost the entire command hemmed in, nothing but surrender or retreat was left. All preferring death to surrender, all was lost and retreat in the best possible manner was the only recourse left.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by your very humble servant,

JOSEPHUS UTT,
First Lieut. Co. K, 14th Kans. Vol. Cav., Comdg. Detach.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Detachment.

No. 30.

Report of Capt. William M. Duncan, Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY,
Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to furnish you herewith a list as far as known of the killed, wounded, and missing of the Eighteenth Regiment Iowa Infantry; also a statement of our position and movements during the engagement. I had in the engagement 12 commissioned officers and 371 enlisted men. We first formed a line in the road with the howitzer on our left. Soon after a heavy column of infantry was discovered moving on our right flank. We then changed front and formed in the orchard on the south side of the the road, throw-

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 9 men.

ing out two companies as skirmishers—one in our front and one on our right. We here were attacked in front and on the right flank. We held this position until the Second Indiana Battery came back in retreat, when I was ordered to form on the north side of the road to protect the battery. Here we held our position, under a heavy fire from the front and left flank, until a portion of the battery had passed into the woods in our rear, when we were ordered to fall back through an open field to the woods. I formed here and held the position for about twenty minutes, under galling fire from the front and right and left flanks from both infantry and cavalry. I should estimate their number at from 5,000 to 6,000. From this position we moved slowly back, forming seven different times in the space of one and one-half hours. We succeeded in checking the enemy in our front, but being attacked on both flanks and in our rear we retreated in good order toward town. I am unable to give the number of killed or wounded, as I have not yet been able to get any account from the battle-field. There are a large number on the field known to be killed and wounded, but I cannot yet ascertain the names. Those that I report as wounded are wounded men who have arrived in camp since the engagement. The others are reported missing. The regiment arrived in camp at Camden about 8 o'clock on the evening of engagement.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. M. DUNCAN,

Captain, Commanding Eighteenth Iowa Infantry.

Colonel WILLIAMS.

P. S.—Our total number of killed, wounded, and missing is 1 commissioned officer and 79 enlisted men.

W. M. D.

No. 31.

Report of Maj. Richard G. Ward, First Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST KANSAS COLORED VOLUNTEERS,

Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

COLONEL: In conformity with the requirements of the circular issued by you, April 19, 1864, I submit the following report of the conduct of that portion of the escort which I had the honor to command, and of the part taken by them in the action of the 18th instant: I marched from the camp on White Oak Creek, with the six companies left with me as rear guard, about 7 a. m. When I arrived at the junction of the Washington road I found the Eighteenth Iowa Infantry and a detachment of cavalry waiting to relieve me as rear guard. At this moment I received your order to press forward to the front, as your advance was skirmishing with the enemy. Upon arriving, agreeably to your order, I placed one wing of this regiment on each side of the section of Rabb's battery to support it and awaited further developments. After your cavalry had ascertained the position of the enemy's force on our right flank, and Lieutenant Haines had planted one of his pieces in a favorable position, I placed Companies A, B, E, and H in position to support it,

We had hardly got into position here before our cavalry were forced back upon our line by an overwhelming force of the enemy. Lieutenant Henderson, commanding detachment Sixth Kansas (than whom a braver officer never existed), was severely wounded, and I ordered Corporal Wallahan, Company M, Sixth Kansas, to form his men on my right. He had scarcely formed them ere Lieutenant Mitchell, commanding detachment Second Kansas Cavalry, was also driven in, when he was placed upon the extreme right, under your personal supervision.

The line of battle was now nearly in the form of the segment of a circle, the convex side being outward or toward the enemy, Companies C and I being on the north side of the road facing toward the east, companies D and F on the south side of the road facing in the same direction, whilst on my extreme right the men were drawn up in line facing due south. It was now about 11.30 a. m. These dispositions were scarcely made ere the enemy opened a severe and well-directed fire from a six-gun battery, at the distance of about 1,000 yards. This battery was near the road due east of our line. At the same time a howitzer battery, reported to me as having four guns, opened on the south opposite my right, at a distance of 600 or 700 yards. Although this was much the severest artillery fire that any of the men had ever before been subjected to, and many of the men were thus under fire for the first time, they were as cool as veterans and patiently awaited the onset of the enemy's infantry. Just after 12 o'clock the enemy's battery slackened their fire, and their infantry advanced to the attack. From the position of the ground it was useless to deliver a fire until the enemy were within 100 yards. I therefore reserved my fire until their first line was within that distance, when I gave the order to fire. For about a quarter of an hour it seemed as though the enemy were determined to break my lines and capture the guns, but their attempts were fruitless and they were compelled to fall precipitately back, not, however, before they had disabled more than half of the gunners belonging to the gun on the right. Again they opened their infernal cross-fires with their batteries, and through the smoke I could see them massing their infantry for another attack. I immediately applied to you for more men. Companies G and K were sent me. I placed Company K upon the extreme right (where the cavalry had rested, but which had now retired), and Company G upon the left of Company B. Shortly after these dispositions were made the enemy again advanced, this time in two columns, yelling like fiends. Lieutenant Macy, of Company C, whom you had sent out with skirmishers from the left, was driven in, and I placed him with his small command between Companies G and B. At this moment yourself and Lieutenant Haines arrived on the right, and I reported to you the condition of the gun, only 2 men being left to man it, when you ordered it to the rear. Just as the boys were preparing to limber, a large body of the enemy was observed making for the gun in close column, whereupon Private Alonzo Hinshaw, of the Second Indiana Battery, himself double-loaded the piece with canister, and poured into the advancing column a parting salute at the distance of about 300 yards, and then limbered. The effect was terrific. Our infantry redoubled their fire, and again the massed columns sullenly retired. Three different times the enemy was thus repulsed, and as they were massing for the fourth charge, I informed you that I believed it would be impossible to hold my position without more men on my

right and center. You replied that I should have them if they could be spared from other points. I held my position until you returned, when seeing your horse fall I gave you mine for the purpose of going to the Eighteenth Iowa to form them in a favorable position for my line to fall back upon, Agreeably to your order to hold the ground at any and all events until this could be done, I encouraged the men to renew their exertions and repel the coming charge, intending, if I succeeded, to take that opportunity of falling back instead of being compelled to do so under fire. My right succeeded in checking the advance, but my left being outflanked at the same time that my left center was sustaining the attack of ten times their number, I ordered to fall back slowly toward the train, changing front toward the left to prevent the enemy from coming up in my rear. We here made a stand of about ten minutes, when I perceived that the enemy had succeeded in flanking my extreme right, and that I was placed in a position to receive a cross-fire from their two lines. I was then compelled, in order to save even a fragment of the gallant regiment which for nearly two hours had, unaided, sustained itself against Price's whole army, to order a retreat.

Although a portion retired precipitately, the greater portion of them kept up a continual fire the whole length of the train. I ordered the men to retire behind the line of the Eighteenth Iowa and form, but, alas! four companies had lost their gallant commanders and were without an officer. By your aid, and the assistance of a few unharmed officers, I succeeded in collecting a few of the command and placing them on the left of the Eighteenth Iowa. As they were slowly forced backward others took position in the line, and did all that could be done to check the advance of the overwhelming forces of the enemy. I sent a small force to assist Lieutenant Haines in his gallant and manly efforts to save his guns, and had it not been for the worn condition of the horses I believe he would have succeeded. Accompanying this I send the reports of campany commanders of the losses sustained by their respective companies. It will be noticed that the heaviest punishment was inflicted upon Company G, from the fact that it was worse exposed to the galling cross-fires of the enemy.

You will see that I went into action with about 450 enlisted men and 13 officers of the line. Seven out of that gallant 13 were killed or wounded. Five* are reported dead on the field: Capt. A. J. Armstrong, Company D; Lieut. B. Hitchcock, Company G; Lieut. Charles J. Coleman and Joseph B. Samuels, Company H, and Lieut. John Topping, Company B. The cheerful offering of the lives of such noble men needs not the assistance of any studied panegyric to bespeak for it that spirit of lasting admiration with which their memories will ever be enshrined. Four companies fought their way to the rear without a commissioned officer. One hundred and seventeen men are killed and 67 wounded, some of them mortally. I cannot refrain from mentioning the names of Capt. B. W. Welch, Company K, and Lieut. E. Q. Macy, Company C, both of whom were wounded, as among the number of sufferers who have earned the thanks and merit the sympathy of the loyal and generous everywhere. Any attempt to mention the name of any soldier in particular would be unjust unless I mentioned all, for every one, as far as

*Capt. A. J. Armstrong and Lieut. B. Hitchcock were afterward found to be captured.

I could see, did his duty coolly, nobly, and bravely. On the right, where the enemy made so many repeated attempts to break my line, I saw officers and men engaged in taking the cartridges from the bodies of the dead, and, upon inquiring, found that their ammunition was nearly expended. The brave and soldier-like Topping was killed in the first charge; and the gallant young Coleman, commanding Company H, was shot down in the second charge. At what particular period of the engagement the other officers fell I am unable to state. To Capt. John R. Graton, Company C; Capt. William H. Smallwood, Company G; Lieut. R. L. Harris, Company I; Lieut. B. G. Jones, Company A; Lieut. John Overdear, Company E; Lieut. S. S. Creps, Company F, and Adjt. William C. Gibbons, I would tender my heartfelt thanks for the faithful, efficient, and manly performance of the most arduous duties while subjected to the hottest fire. The loss in arms and clothing is quite serious, but from the exhausted state of the men it is strange that as many of them brought in their arms and accouterments as did. Out of seventy-eight hours preceding the action, sixty-three hours were spent by the entire command on duty, besides a heavy picket guard having been furnished for the remaining fifteen hours. You are also reminded that the rations were of necessity exceedingly short for more than a week previous to the battle. We were obliged to bring our wounded away the best we could, as the rebels were seen shooting those that fell into their hands. The men who brought in the wounded were obliged to throw away their arms, but the most who did so waited till they reached the swamps, and then sunk them in the bayous.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. G. WARD,
Major First Kansas Colored Volunteers.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Escort to Forage Train.

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*Recapitulation of losses.**

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Company A	.....	14	.....	6	20
Company B	1	7	.....	11	19
Company C	.....	15	1	4	20
Company D	1	8	.....	3	12
Company E	.....	11	.....	5	16
Company F	.....	10	.....	5	15
Company G	1	13	.....	13	27
Company H	2	8	.....	3	13
Company I	.....	11	.....	6	17
Company K	.....	15	1	7	23
Total	5	112	2	63	182

R. G. WARD,
Major First Kansas Colored Vols., Comdg. Regiment.

*From nominal list.

No. 32.

Report of Lieut. William C. Gibbons, First Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Poison Spring.

CAMDEN, ARK., *April* 21, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to your order I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by Companies C and I, First Kansas Colored Volunteers, during an engagement with the enemy 14 miles west of this place, on the 18th instant: In obedience to your orders I assumed the responsibility of the movements of Companies C and I, which composed the extreme left of our advance line, posted on the left-hand side of the road and supporting No. 1 piece of Rabb's battery, and awaited the development of the enemy. Owing to the continued fire kept up by this piece, the gunners had used up their supply of ammunition except solid shot, and the piece was limbered to the rear about 100 yards in the rear of its former position. At this juncture I knew by the heavy musketry discharges on my right that the eight companies under Major Ward were heavily engaged, but I could see nothing in that quarter owing to the density of the smoke. Accordingly I kept a sharp lookout to the front to prevent a flank movement by the enemy, which I anticipated. While the right was engaging the enemy with musketry, the six-gun battery of the enemy planted in our immediate front continued to throw shell on our left, and the piece above referred to limbered still farther to the rear in order to adjust ammunition. I then ordered the two companies to fall back opposite the advance wagon of the train, which they did. Just then both horse and footmen to the number of about 100 crossed my front dressed in blue. Captain Graton and myself supposed them to be our own men, the Second or Sixth Kansas Cavalry, and the infantry I supposed to be a few Eighteenth Iowa men, who were acting the part of sharpshooters in the former part of the engagement, but I was soon undeceived by the appearance of a large body of infantry dressed in gray, following directly after, and the appearance of 400 or 500 rebel cavalry crossing the road farther off on the right of their infantry. I immediately ordered the men to fire, which was kept up for a few minutes only, but with such effect as to check the enemy's advance. Being sorely pressed by an overwhelming number, and seeing the cavalry about to flank me on the left, I ordered a retreat and formed again about 60 yards to the rear. Again our men poured a deadly volley among the enemy, but it was impossible to hold the ground. However, I would not suffer the men to fall back farther, until I saw that the left of the right wing was broken and making their way across the road between the mules and wagons, then I ordered the men to fall back in as good order as possible.

During this maneuver I was on foot leading my horse, and in the attempt to mount my saber tripped me, my horse became scared and dragged me about 5 yards. During this, the infantry had all passed me and the enemy were bearing down on us with a yell. I need not say I mounted quick and rode away quicker. At the distance of about 100 or 150 yards, I came to the southwest corner of a fence surrounding an open field. Here I found nearly all of Companies C and I, who had escaped the fire of the enemy, with a few men of other companies, and with the assistance of Captain Graton, Lieutenant Harris, and Captain Armstrong, whom I found there, I suc-

ceeded in forming a line of about 100 men to check the advance of the rebel cavalry, who had by this time formed a line extending across the field. I ordered the men to fire and the effect was as I anticipated, but this line could not stand longer than to deliver one volley. I saw that the right was entirely broken and the men pouring past me, and the cavalry had but to charge across the field, leap the fence, and our retreat was cut off. Then, seeing the train was lost, my first idea was to save the men. So I ordered them to scatter and bear to the left, with the hope of being able to form on the left of the Eighteenth Iowa, in order to protect the guns which I saw were being driven through the timber a little in advance of me. I rode square off to the left and came up near the Eighteenth Iowa just as they were leaping a fence. Supposing that to be their final repulse, I bore to the right and came up with No. 1 gun, which had run against a tree. I rallied a few men to the assistance of the gunners and the gun was freed, but it proceeded but little farther when it again ran against a tree, and the rear wheel-horse fell. Lieutenant Haines, commanding the section, then commanded the men to cut the horses loose and mount them, while 1 man, I think the lieutenant himself, spiked the piece. This was done in a ravine. Mounting the hill in front I could distinctly see the rebels shooting down our brave but fatigued boys. In a few minutes you overtook me. I still rode slowly on (knowing my horse could easily take me out of danger), giving such directions to all of our men I met as I thought would insure their safety. When about 4 miles from the battle-field, in company with the adjutant of the Eighteenth Iowa, I rode as fast as the nature of the country would allow for Camden, where I arrived about 8 p. m.

Great credit is due both officers and men under my observation for the coolness, bravery, and promptness with which they obeyed and executed orders. I would especially mention First Sergeant Berry, Company I (supposed to be dead), whose efforts to keep his men in their place, urging them by all the endearments of freedom to keep their ground, were unceasing. He was a brave soldier and a noble man.

I remain, colonel, your obedient servant,

WM. C. GIBBONS,
Adjutant First Regt. Kansas Colored Volunteers.

Col. J. M. Williams,
Comdg. First Regiment Kansas Colored Vols.

No. 33.

Report of Lieut. William W. Haines, Second Indiana Battery, of engagement at Poison Spring.

Camden, Ark., *April* 20, 1864.

Colonel: I have the honor to make the following report, in obedience to circular received this day: First. There was with the section myself and 32 enlisted men. Second. I had 4 men wounded—Corpl. George Walker, in left knee by piece of shell; John Highstreet, with musket-ball in left breast, I think mortally; Levi H. Burgess, by musket-ball passing through left leg; Charles Van De Venter, by

musket-ball in left temple, fracturing the skull; Alonzo Hinshaw, missing; I think he is killed. Third. My men all acted the part of brave and obedient soldiers, doing promptly and cheerfully what I ordered. After firing all the canister I had with my gun on our right flank, in obedience to your order, I reported with my section to Captain Duncan at the rear of the train. He ordered me to take position on a hill about 900 yards in his rear and to his left. On arriving at the place I found the rebel cavalry by a flank movement had come between me and Captain Duncan's battalion. I had no person there to support me except one Second Kansas Volunteer cavalryman, and the rebels were advancing on pieces. There was no road, and the woods were so thick that I could not go as fast as the rebel cavalry, so I ordered my drivers to cut their horses loose and save themselves and spike the rear piece and abandon them. My men all returned to camp except Highstreet, Van De Venter, Burgess, and Hinshaw. They still remain in the hands of the enemy.

I have the honor to remain, yours, &c.,

WM. W. HAINES,
First Lieutenant, Second Indiana Battery.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
First Kansas Colored, Commanding Escort.

No. 34.

Report of Col. Samuel J. Crawford, Second Kansas Colored Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

CAMP SECOND REGT. KANSAS COLORED INFY. VOLS.,
Fort Smith, Ark., May 20, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the part taken by my regiment in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, April 30, 1864. During the four days preceding said 30th of April my regiment marched from Camden, Ark., to the Saline River, on one-quarter rations, through almost unprecedented mud and rain without tents or transportation. During the night of the 29th, my regiment remained in line of battle 1 mile from the crossing of the Saline River, exposed to a very severe rain-storm. Early on the morning of the 30th, I was directed by Colonel Adams, commanding brigade, to move my regiment forward and halt near the pontoon bridge crossing the river. I executed the order, arriving near the bridge about 8 a. m. Soon after halting I heard scattering reports of small-arms to the rear, which proved to be the enemy advancing and skirmishing with the brigade acting as rear guard under General Rice. The light musketry fire increased rapidly and very soon grew into volleys from the entire brigade, an indication to me that the enemy was advancing in force. Convinced of the fact, I immediately countermarched my regiment for the scene of action. The road over which I had to march was exceedingly muddy, having a deep swamp on either side. Pushing foward, however, as rapidly as possible with my tired and hungry regiment, I soon reached the field and reported with my command to Brigadier-General Rice. On reporting he immediately directed me to throw my regiment in position on the right and relieve the Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, which had been engaged for some time

and had expended their ammunition. I at once threw my regiment into line under a very heavy fire of musketry from the enemy, and moved forward to occupy the position assigned me, the Fiftieth Indiana Infantry retiring. Perceiving that the enemy were endeavoring to flank our lines on the right, I detached Capt. Frank Kister with two companies (D and C), directing him to cross a deep slough or ravine on my right, engage the enemy, and check his movements in that direction at all hazards. The order was promptly obeyed by the captain executing the movement under a very heavy fire from the enemy and under circumstances which would try the nerves of older soldiers, effecting the object desired. From the position above indicated I engaged the enemy incessantly for two hours, neither apparently gaining any advantage. I then began to press his lines, when he moved forward a battery of three guns and put in position about 250 yards in advance of my lines and opened fire on my regiment. Seeing this movement and knowing that our lines could not be maintained with the batttery in that relative position, I requested permission to charge it. My request being granted, I ordered my regiment to fix bayonets and charge the battery, which order was executed promptly and with a coolness and courage worthy of veterans, the regiment steadily advancing, with continuous and hearty cheering, under a galling fire of musketry and artillery, and keeping up during the charge a steady fire upon the enemy's lines, principally directed upon the battery, until it was silenced and their lines thrown into confusion, when they precipitately fled from the field, leaving their killed and wounded, together with their artillery and a large quantity of small-arms, in our possession. I continued to advance my lines until I had passed the battery about 150 yards and halted my regiment, detaching a sufficient force to take the battery to the rear, and my men having entirely expended their ammunition, I retired for the purpose of procuring a supply. My purpose accomplished, I was again ordered to the front, and accordingly took position near the center of our lines. From this position I engaged the enemy about an hour, when he retreated, leaving the field in our possession. Having remained on the field about twenty minutes after the enemy had retreated, we were ordered to withdraw and continue our line of march, my regiment acting as rear guard. I was the last to leave the field.

The regiment lost during the engagement 1 officer and 72 men killed and wounded, a list of whom is hereunto appended.* Many instances of individual gallantry and daring occurred during the engagement. To particularize or make any distinction between officers is unnecessary; they all did their duty nobly. Capt. Alexander Rush, than whom a truer or braver officer never lived, fell, pierced through the head by a musket-ball while gallantly leading his company into the battle. In him the regiment and army have lost a gallant and faithful officer, and his acquaintances a noble friend. Although it was the first engagement of moment in which the regiment had been engaged, I have not seen, in the many conflicts I have witnessed during this war, troops who displayed a greater degree of coolness, courage, and daring than was displayed by the colored troops under my command during the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, and although worn out with fatigue and hunger at the close

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 officer and 14 men killed, 55 men wounded, and 3 men missing.

of the engagement, were loth to leave the field. I here accept the opportunity to render justice to two enlisted men attached to my command, viz, Sergt. John P. Mosley and Private George R. Benedict, Thirteenth Kansas Infantry, the former acting as first sergeant Company B, the latter as sergeant-major of my regiment, both of whom were severely wounded near the latter part of the engagement. No meed of praise in this respect would sufficiently do justice to their heroic conduct on the field or to their soldierly qualities at all times.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. J. CRAWFORD,
Colonel, Comdg. Second Regiment Kansas Colored Infy.

Capt. W. S. WHITTEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 35.

Reports of Lieut. Col. William T. Campbell, Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

HDQRS. SIXTH KANSAS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,
Camp near Camden, Ark., April 20, 1864.

SIR: I would respectfully report that Lieut. R. Henderson, of Company G, Sixth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers, was ordered to report to you with 50 enlisted men of this regiment. As the lieutenant was wounded and is absent from the regiment, a detailed report cannot be given. But 1 man of his command is missing, viz, Private N. Cunningham, Company K, Sixth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers. The reports of the other officers of this regiment who formed part of the escort are inclosed.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. CAMPBELL,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Sixth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers.

Col. J. M. WILLIAMS,
Commanding Escort to Forage Train.

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FORT SMITH, ARK., *May* —, 1864.

SIR: The Sixth Kansas Cavalry Volunteers, consisting of regimental headquarters and Companies A, C, G, K, and M, marched from camp near Roseville, Ark., under command of Lieut. Col. William T. Campbell, forming a junction on the 28th with the Frontier Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. M. Thayer. The regiment was then attached to the Third (or Cavalry) Brigade, and on the 9th of April, on the Little Missouri River, formed a junction with the Seventh Army Corps, Maj. Gen. F. Steele commanding. The regiment participated in the skirmishes on the 10th, 11th, and 12th, at Prairie D'Ane.

On the 13th, while preparing to march, was again attacked, the Frontier Division being in the rear. The enemy was repulsed and driven from the field of action. On the 14th, Company C lost 9 men killed, wounded, or captured, while foraging. On the 16th, the regiment, with the main command, arrived at Camden, Ark.

* See reports of Phillips and Walker, pp. 748, 749.

On the 17th, the train left Camden for the purpose of procuring forage for the command, a portion of the detail for escort being made from the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, consisting of 75 cavalry and the section of howitzers attached to the regiment, under command of Lieut. Robert Henderson, Company G. On the 18th, the train was attacked and captured by the enemy at Poison Spring, 12 miles west of Camden. In the engagement Lieut. Robert Henderson was wounded and captured; Private C. C. Goodman, Company D, attached to the howitzers, was killed; Private H. Gable, Company K, was captured, and several wounded. The detachments returned to Camden, and remained there until the 26th, when the regiment, with the command, took up its line of march for Little Rock.

On the morning of the 29th, about 10 o'clock, while the command was crossing the Ouachita River, the enemy attacked our rear guard, which consisted of Companies C and K, Sixth Regiment. A sharp skirmish ensued, in which Private E. Gray, Company C, was severely wounded, and 2 men of Company K missing. On the morning of the 30th, the enemy attacked our army in force while crossing Saline River. In this engagement the regiment did not participate, two companies being occupied in guarding fordings on the Saline River, the other companies, with the Cavalry Division, en route to Little Rock, where they arrived May 1, 1864. At the crossing of the Saline River the medicine stores, tents, and wagons were burned, by order of Major-General Steele, and unfortunately the regimental records were all destroyed. On the 6th of May the regiment left Little Rock, and arrived at Dardanelle on the 9th. Same day had a skirmish with a party of rebels, in which Sergt. G. P. Freeman, Company A, was mortally wounded, and Sergt. Joseph E. Powell severely wounded. From Dardanelle the regiment marched for Fort Smith, Ark., where it arrived on the 16th of May.

W. T. CAMPBELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

Col. W. F. Cloud,
Comdg. Third Brigade, Frontier Division.

No. 36.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

Headquarters Cavalry Division,
Camp near Elkin's Ferry, April 2, 1864—4 p. m.

General: I arrived at this place about 3 o'clock. A few shots were fired from the other side, and a few have just been fired. The ford is entirely practicable except for the small howitzers, whose boxes will have to be put in wagons. It is at least 5 miles from Okolona. There has a considerable force crossed here to-day from Rome toward the south, judging from tracks. Ritter thinks he saw artillery tracks. We captured 3 men, who say they belong to Marmaduke's body guard; captured in the direction of Rome, by foragers. Say they left Marmaduke at Tate's Ferry yesterday morning; do not know whether he went to Rome or no. Part of the command,

viz, Greene's (he is a colonel of Shelby's old regiment from Saint Louis), was at Rome this morning; don't know where Shelby is; not disposed to answer questions. Some of my foragers were fired on about 4 miles west of a point on my road half-way between here and Okolona. I am encamped on the north side of the river with a mounted picket on the opposite side; four of my mountain howitzers bearing on the opposite side. The ground on this side is at least as high as on the other; on this side it is very thickety, on the other very open woods; flat both sides. I would suggest that a regiment of infantry with a rifled battery would add greatly to the security of the crossing. My guns are weak, both carbines and artillery.

Respectfully,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Major-General STEELE.]

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Camp, April 10, 1864—5.30 a. m.

GENERAL: My forage train has not returned, and I will not have more than 600 mounted men in both brigades; consequently I cannot send a strong reconnaissance on the Murfreesborough road. Will you direct General Thayer to send one out? It should be at least 200 strong; should go immediately; should relieve my pickets, and go 6 or 7 miles from here, 2 or 3 miles beyond where the road from Eads' comes into the Murfreesborough road, which is 4 miles from here, then fall back to that junction and hold it till the train has all started from camp. Will you also please to direct General Thayer to post a picket at the Little Missouri crossing till my train comes up?

Captain Kehoe has made a strange blunder in staying out over night, but I cannot believe he is more than 10 miles from the crossing, and feel certain that he will reach there by 9 o'clock. I learned after midnight that many of General Thayer's teams were still in the bottom, camped, some being stuck and some upset.

Very respectfully,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Major-General STEELE.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Folk's Old Field, Ark., April 12, 1864—10.45 a. m.

GENERAL: I have found the long-sought-for field; there are no fortifications. About 60 men were here on picket and we drove them off. I shall leave Caldwell's brigade on picket, with orders to fall back in an hour unless otherwise ordered.

Very respectfully, yours,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Commanding Department of Arkansas.

Headquarters Cavalry Division,
Dr. Rook's Plantation, near Lone Grove, Ark., April 13, 1864.

Sir: I am encamped along the road from Lone Grove toward Camden. Colonel Ritter has orders to move with his mounted force to Camden early to-morrow. In the absence of other orders I propose to march at 7 o'clock to-morrow, keeping scouts well out on either flank. The Caney makes a sweep to the southwest from the crossing, and is said to be impassable, so as to protect us on the south till we get several miles farther east. Some of my foragers saw 12 rebels about a mile north of here to-day. I propose to take out the family of a soldier of the Tenth Illinois, which is at a cross-roads called Bluff City, 3 miles east by northeast of Lone Grove; also those of two Union men living near here north of the road. The soldier says there is forage in his neighborhood, and that he can take a train of twenty wagons off the road at Lone Grove and come in again at a point several miles in advance, loaded. The man has gone to-night after his family. If he returns in time in the morning he will report to Captain Henry, but I think it would be well to send the wagons any way, as any intelligent man ought to be able to make the circuit, and guides may be pressed. The road, so far, from Caney is sandy, and rain cannot hurt it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. G. O. Sokalski,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Camp on White Oak Creek,
April 14, 1864—9 p. m.

Sir: Upon arriving here a short time before sunset I sent out 500 men to reconnoiter the Washington road, 250 to go to the junction with this road, and 250 to take a cross-road which leaves this 1½ miles in advance. The reconnaissance on the direct road drove a scouting party of about 60 (which had been annoying my advance for several miles) to within half a mile of the junction, where it met a column of the enemy and engaged it. At last reports they were still engaged, and had not yet arrived at the junction. The party on the cross-road went on to the Washington road and formed line across it. A few moments after there came a party of about 200 from the west. My men challenged: "Who comes there?" Answer, "Friends." "Friends of whom?" "Friends of Jeff. Davis." Whereupon my men fired on them, killed 1, wounded and captured another, and captured 1 unwounded. The unwounded prisoner says he belongs to Kitchen's regiment, of Greene's brigade, and that Greene's and Shelby's brigades have passed on to Camden; that his party was the rear guard; does not know whether Price's whole force is moving or not. The wounded prisoner has not yet come in. A citizen, captured about 1½ miles in advance, says he saw one of Marmaduke's flankers near the Washington road this p. m. I have had 3 men wounded, 1 through the chest.

General Rice came to this creek just after I had received the above report, 7.30 o'clock. We agree that we are between 5 and 6 miles from your headquarters; the junction is 4 miles still farther. We

propose to move at daylight. I send with this orders to Colonel Ritter to move at daylight. The road is good; there are two small creeks to cross; bottoms narrow (a few yards wide), but may (probably will) require some work. The crossing here is covered with water, and promises to last well. Lieutenant Porter places but little confidence in the prisoner's statement, but I feel satisfied that a considerable part of the enemy's force has got between us and Camden. The remainder may be camped to-night on the upper crossing of the White Oak, in which case we will be before them at the junction in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Camden, Ark., April 21, 1864—12.30 p. m.

SIR: Colonel Ritter's brigade has just returned. It went 8½ miles beyond Princeton; found and heard of no rebels except that people said at Princeton, on the 19th that Marmaduke was crossing and coming upon our line of communications. Captain Bunner left the command on the 19th, with the dispatches and 9 men for Pine Bluff; expected to be obliged to swim the Saline. Colonel Ritter is sick, and his dismounted men are much fatigued, some of their feet being raw. He heard indefinite rumors of the train through the country people, but did not know it had come on. An old man, just through from Little Rock, said that there were no rebels on the road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
April 27, 1864—10 a. m.

SIR: I have stopped at a point about 13 miles from Princeton and 16 miles from the camp I left this morning. There are two or three small spring branches here; good spring half a mile back of me. There is said to be 1,500 bushels of corn 2½ miles from here, off the road. I would be glad to be notified of the time the infantry will move and will try to get out of the way. I have not traveled so far as I expected on account of the slowness of the start and the slowness of the march during the darkness.

Very respectfully,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No enemy seen or heard of.

E. A. C.,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
One and a half miles north of Jenkins' Ferry,
April 29, 1864—6.30 p. m.

SIR: My advance left here at 6 o'clock. I have a little over 1,500 men of my division and six howitzers. Do not intend to take Kansas howitzers. Colonel Cloud's command has not reported; do not know how many he has; do not intend to wait for him, but will leave a man to put him on the road. Some of my flankers got lost to-day west of Tulip; captured a prisoner who says he left Fagan at a point 15 miles from Tulip, on road to Benton, yesterday at 12 o'clock, camped. Fagan could not get his artillery along the river road and took to the ridge. My reconnaissance, which followed him 7 miles, reported the road very bad. The flankers say they saw a trail of at least 2,000 going toward the river about 15 miles west of here; suppose they (whoever was on the trail) were aiming to cross the Saline. The road from the pontoon bridge to this place is very bad. I have no idea that you can get the train through it to-night. I have ordered my train and dismounted men to this place to await further orders. Please keep it in mind in your orders of march. Woman at a house near here says they are grinding for Fagan at a mill 7 miles from here, a little off our road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. G. O. SOKALSKI,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 37.

Report of Col. John F. Ritter, First Missouri Cavalry, commanding First Brigade, of skirmishes March 23–24.

CAMP FIRST BRIGADE,
Saline River, March 24, 1864.

GENERAL: I send you the written report of Colonel Ritter, which I think will give you all the information you desire. I shall remain with the colonel to-night. The prisoner that is sent thinks he is to be hung, so that he is willing to give all the information that he can.

Very respectfully,

C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General CARR.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Camp in the Field, March 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in the attack upon the pickets on the Benton road yesterday morning two men from Third Arkansas Cavalry were captured by the enemy. The pickets from Merrill's Horse, on the Maumelle road, drove them back, 2 of our men being slightly wounded. Upon the march to-day but 3 of the

enemy were seen in Benton upon the arrival of my advance guard; shots were exchanged between them. My advance guard were fired upon three or four times to-day by rebels lying in ambush. A prisoner from First Missouri Cavalry (Confederate), Shelby's brigade, and dressed in Federal uniform, was captured by my men near Benton. He had in his possession a rebel mail, which I examined and found nothing important. Many of Shelby's command are clothed in Federal uniform. From what I can learn from this prisoner, and other sources of information, there are none of the enemy camped at Rockport. Shelby is reported at Camden with three regiments and a battalion. Other forces are reported at Washington and Spring Hill. I send in charge of the escort the above-mentioned prisoner, who, perhaps, can give you some information. The Saline River is low and easily forded.

Respectfully, &c.,

JNO. F. RITTER,
Colonel First Missouri Cavaly, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. E. A. CARR.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
March 25, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding. I recommend that the prisoner be put to death. I have no doubt of his being found in our uniform.

Respectfully submitted.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

No. 38.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Caldwell, First Iowa Cavalry, commanding Third Brigade, of skirmishes April 2–4.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., CAV. DIV., 7TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp No. 8, *in Field, April* 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of the Third Brigade during the march from camp near Spoonville yesterday, the 2d instant, to this place: At 6 a. m. the Third Brigade left camp near Spoonville and marched in rear of the First Brigade, on the Washington road, a distance of about 6 miles. At this place the Camden road intersects the Washington road, which was taken, leaving the Washington road to the right. Here, by order of the brigadier-general commanding, I sent forward 200 mounted men of the First Iowa Cavalry, under Captain McIntyre, on the Washington road at 9 a. m., with instructions to proceed 6 miles, and there remain as a picket until 1 p. m. With the brigade proper I marched on the Camden road in rear of First Brigade. The detachment of 200 men sent forward on Washington road had not proceeded a mile when the enemy appeared in front, and brisk skirmishing ensued. Though few in number, compared to the number of the enemy, the captain drove him to Antoine and beyond it a

distance of about 4 miles. Upon my arrival at Okolona, a distance of 5 miles from the junction of the Washington and Camden roads, an orderly from Captain McIntyre's detachment reported that he had been fighting the enemy, who had largely superior numbers, since the brigade had left the main Washington road. I reported at once to the brigadier-general commanding, and by his order I sent the effective force mounted of the First Iowa Cavalry to Captain McIntyre's assistance, under Captain Crosby, and moved forward with the remainder of my brigade to the present camp, on the Little Missouri River. Captain Crosby arrived at Antoine about 1 p. m., and, combining the forces of the First Iowa Cavalry, attacked the enemy and drove him steadily back to Wolf Creek, a distance of 3 miles. Here the enemy took a strong position on an elevation beyond Wolf Creek, leaving an open field in front and right, and bringing forward his artillery opened with grape and canister, and afterward with shot and shell, maintained it. The First Iowa having no artillery it was impossible to dislodge him. The captain then retired in good order, and joined the brigade at 7 p. m. near Okolona, having fought a force of 2,500 strong, under Generals Cabell and Marmaduke, and marched a distance of 41 miles. The following is a list of casualties*.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. CALDWELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Third Brig., Cav. Div.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Camp No. 8, April 5, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, in the engagement yesterday across Little Missouri River: On the morning of the 3d instant, by order of the brigadier-general commanding, I sent 525 mounted men, comprising 425 of the Third Missouri Cavalry and 100 of the Tenth Illinois Cavalry, to report to Colonel Ritter, commanding First Brigade. With the remaining effective force I established outposts on all roads in rear, and camped the dismounted battalion in close proximity as reserve. Across the Little Missouri, at a distance of 1½ miles on the main road from the ferry, I posted two squadrons (C and D) of the First Iowa Cavalry to guard well against the enemy in front. At sunrise on the morning of the 4th instant the enemy opened a vigorous fire with artillery and small-arms on the advance outposts across Little Missouri. The attack was gallantly met by these two squadrons, who repulsed the enemy, driving him at least a quarter of a mile through the timber. As soon as this attack was made, by order of the brigadier-general commanding, I sent forward two squadrons (E and F) of the First Iowa Cavalry as re-enforcements, but before they arrived these squadrons on outpost duty were compelled to retire, the enemy having vastly superior numbers. The enemy advanced to the position occupied by the outposts, planted his artillery, and with a long line of skirmishers on both flanks opened a galling fire on our advance line. The

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 enlisted man killed, 2 enlisted men wounded, and 1 enlisted man missing.

squadrons sent forward as re-enforcements were at once dismounted and deployed to the right as skirmishers. Squadron G of the First Iowa Cavalry was sent to the extreme right, and Squadron H of the First Iowa to the extreme left to guard against flank movement by the enemy. Meanwhile the fire on the center increased. But a short time ensued when Captain Whisenand, First Iowa Cavalry, commanding the extreme right line of skirmishers, reported that a flank movement was being made by the enemy on the right. I immediately sent to the right Squadrons I, K, and L of the First Iowa Cavalry, and deployed them as skirmishers, the extreme right of this line resting on the river, 1 mile above the ferry. The entire mounted force of my brigade was now across the river in line, making the advance line of skirmishers on the right and center. This line held the ground firmly, and fell back only when relieved by a regiment of infantry, which was deployed in the rear, in supporting distance. It will be seen from this report that I mention no other regiment than the First Iowa Cavalry. It will be understood when I say that the Third Missouri and Tenth Illinois were all on duty in another field and separate from my command. They cannot fail to render signal service. Every officer and man of the Third Brigade did his whole duty. I have outposts at this time on the right, center, and left at least 1 mile from the ferry. I herewith submit a report of the casualties* of the day. I have taken during the expedition 26 prisoners with arms.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. CALDWELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Return of Casualties in the Third Brigade, Cavalry Division, April 2–25, 1864.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.	Date.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
1st Iowa Cavalry	.....	1	.....	2	.....	1	4	April 2.
	.....	1	1	9	.....	.....	11	April 4.
	.....	1	.....	1	.....	4	6	April 10.
	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	4	April 25.
3d Missouri Cavalry	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	April 15.
Total	.....	4	1	14	.....	7	26	

No. 39.

Reports of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, commanding at Pine Bluff, of expedition to Mount Elba and Long View, &c.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *March 27*, 1864.

GENERAL: The following instructions were received from General Steele, prior to his leaving Little Rock:

LITTLE ROCK, 23*d*.

Col. POWELL CLAYTON:

The movement from this point commenced this morning. To-morrow the general and staff leave. The line of march from here is by the military road to Arkadelphia;

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 killed and 10 wounded.

there to demonstrate toward Washington; then, if all things justify, move rapidly down the west bank of the Washita and take Camden. The commanding general directs that you, in co-operation, observe the enemy in the direction of Monticello, toward Camden. If our movement shall cause them to fall back press them with all the force you can use, making the entire safety of your post the primary object. If possible communicate directly with the general across the country. Keep Major Green, assistant adjutant-general, who remains at Little Rock, advised of everything of importance.

F. H. MANTER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

My scouts from the direction of Monticello bring me information which leads me to believe that the enemy is falling back from that place, although it is impossible to tell for a certainty. Acting upon the supposition that they are, I shall march to-morrow morning with all of my available cavalry and about one-half of my infantry, amounting in all to about 1,100 men, to Mount Elba, at which point I will throw a temporary bridge across the Saline, and leave my infantry and part of my artillery to hold the same and act as a reserve. I will cross with my cavalry, make a feint in the direction of Camden, and move rapidly down the Saline by way of Warren to Long View, at which point the enemy have a pontoon bridge over which they cross in communicating with Camden from Monticello. I think they have some military stores also at this point. By destroying this bridge I will cut off their communications and will be able to attack any small parties that may be between the Saline and the Washita. I have two lines of retreat—first, by the bridge at Mount Elba; second, by the way of Princeton and Benton to Little Rock. Of course the latter would not be adopted unless a flank movement from Monticello should make it necessary for the infantry to withdraw from Mount Elba and fall back upon Pine Bluff. If these plans should meet with your approval I hope you will see the necessity of countermanding your order in reference to the armed negroes at this post, letting them remain as a part of the garrison until I return. I think they are absolutely necessary, as a movement might be made in my absence by the enemy at Monticello against the post; besides, all of the negroes are employed daily in strengthening the fortifications.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 1, 1864.

MAJOR: On the 24th of March, 1864, I received instructions from General Steele, through his chief of staff, to observe the enemy in the direction of Monticello and Camden, and if I found them retreating to press them with all of my available force, making the safety of this post the primary object. In obedience to said instructions I sent out Lieutenants Greathouse and Young, with 40 picked and well-mounted men, each with orders to penetrate the enemy's outer lines and hang upon the flanks of his camps until they could obtain definite information of his movements. On the evening of the 26th, Lieutenants Greathouse and Young returned, and expressed the opinion that the enemy was preparing to leave Monticello. I at once concluded to act upon this information. After some deliberation I concluded that to march directly against the enemy at Monticello

would probably result in his retreating before me, crossing the Saline at Long View, destroying his pontoon bridge in his rear, and thus making good his escape. I therefore abandoned this plan and adopted the one of making a demonstration in the direction of Monticello, as if the whole force was advancing, at the same time advancing rapidly to Mount Elba, bridging the Saline, leaving infantry and artillery to hold the bridge, crossing with the cavalry, making demonstrations in the direction of Camden and Princeton, and at the same time moving rapidly with a small command to Long View, a distance from Mount Elba of 42 miles, destroying their bridge, and thus prevent their retreat, then recrossing the Saline and attacking the enemy with my whole command on the north side of the river. I accordingly organized an expedition consisting of the following troops: Detachment of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, 7 commissioned officers and 230 enlisted men; detachment of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, 5 commissioned officers and 260 enlisted men; detachments of the First Indiana, Fifth Kansas, and Seventh Missouri Cavalry, amounting to 600 men, four mountain howitzers and two steel rifled guns, the infantry under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Marks, the cavalry under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins. I had also a small subsistence train and eight pontoons made for the occasion, mounted on wagon wheels. The infantry and train moved out about sunset of the 27th; also 100 cavalry, under the command of Lieutenants Greathouse and Young, in the direction of Monticello. The balance of the cavalry started at daylight the next morning. The whole command, with the exception of the cavalry sent in the direction of Monticello, arrived at Mount Elba about 4 p. m. of the 28th, drove in the enemy's picket, killing 1 and capturing 4; proceeded at once to the construction of the bridge, which was reported completed and in good order before midnight. Lieutenants Greathouse and Young came in during the night, and reported having driven in the enemy's pickets the night previous at Branchville; advanced to within sight of his camp-fires, built up large camp-fires of their own, sounded trumpets, &c. They gave the opinion that the enemy was completely misled as to our movements.

At daylight on the morning of the 29th, I left the infantry, three pieces of artillery, one squadron of cavalry, and the train at Mount Elba, Lieutenant-Colonel Marks commanding, with instructions to hold the bridge and observe the enemy closely in the direction of Monticello. I moved with the balance of my command across the Saline, in the direction of Camden, 8 miles, to the vicinity of Marks' Mills. In this neighborhood the roads from Camden, Princeton, Long View, and up the Saline converge. I made this the base of my cavalry operations, and sent Lieutenants Greathouse and Young, with 50 picked and well-mounted men, each with instructions to move with the utmost rapidity by the way of Warren to Long View, to destroy the pontoon bridge, the enemy's trains, &c. In the mean time, to cover the movement of Lieutenants Greathouse and Young, I sent a squadron of cavalry on the Camden road, the two Princeton roads, and up each side of the Saline River, with instructions to convey the idea that the whole command was advancing on each of these roads. These parties went out from 10 to 20 miles and returned the same day. Captain Pierce captured 6 prisoners on the road up the south bank of the Saline. Captain Young skirmished with a squadron of rebel cavalry on the Princeton road and captured 10 prisoners; he reported Shelby at Princeton.

About 2 o'clock on the morning of the 30th, fearing that Lieutenant-Colonel Marks might not have sufficient cavalry to watch the enemy in the direction of Monticello, I sent Captain Barnes with a squadron of cavalry to report to him, with instructions to march at daylight in that direction. About 8.30 a. m. I received a report that Captain Barnes had met the enemy on the opposite side of the river, and had been driven in. I immediately sent Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins with the Fifth Kansas Cavalry to the assistance of Lieutenant-Colonel Marks. About 9.30 a. m. Lieutenants Greathouse and Young returned and reported the destruction of the bridge at Long View, the burning of a loaded train of 35 wagons, the capture of a large amount of arms and ammunition, about 260 prisoners, near 300 horses and mules, and a large number of contrabands. About this time artillery firing was heard in the direction of Mount Elba, and soon after a courier from Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins reported an engagement going on at that place. I immediately marched with my cavalry, with the utmost dispatch, to his assistance. Arriving at Mount Elba, I found that the enemy had been handsomely repulsed by Lieutenant-Colonels Jenkins and Marks, and had fallen back about a mile, followed by Majors Walker and Scudder with the Fifth Kansas Cavalry. I immediately joined the pursuit with all of my available cavalry. I found the enemy posted in thick timber, with an inclosed field, a peach orchard, betwixt his position and ours. I ordered my artillery in position, had the fence thrown down, and ordered the charge. The artillery opened at the same time; the men charged gallantly across the open field into the timber; the enemy broke in the wildest confusion, and from this out his retreat was a perfect rout. The road and timber were strewn with blankets, saddle-bags, hats, and guns, and prisoners were being constantly brought in and sent to the rear. The pursuit was vigorously kept up until we arrived at a point about 5 miles from Mount Elba, where the road crosses Big Creek. Here the enemy had succeeded in tearing up about 20 feet of the bridge, carrying off the plank. The creek could not be forded. We were consequently very suddenly and effectively checked. By the time we were ready to move again it was about 5 p. m., and by the time we arrived at Centreville, a point about 12 miles from Mount Elba, it was nightfall. The greater part of my cavalry was very much fatigued, and that portion which made the expedition to Long View was unable to move a step farther. The infantry with the prisoners and train was still behind. In view of the four hours' start the enemy had obtained by means of the obstruction at the bridge, and the incumbrance of our prisoners, who would be difficult to guard during a night march, I concluded to pursue any farther would be a useless tax upon the energy and endurance of my command. I accordingly went into camp and marched back to Pine Bluff, a distance of 28 miles, the next day.

The enemy's forces at Mount Elba consisted of Crawford's and Crockett's brigades, commanded by General Dockery in person. His defeat was thorough and complete, with a loss upon his part in killed, wounded, and missing, independent of the 260 captured at Long View, of over 160 men.

The Long View raid reflects the highest credit to Lieutenants Greathouse and Young, and for brilliancy and success is almost without a parallel. One hundred men (50 from the First Indiana and 50 from the Fifth Kansas Cavalry) marched 40 miles into the

enemy's country, captured and destroyed a train of 35 wagons loaded with stores of great value to the enemy (their paymaster's safe containing over $60,000), destroyed their pontoon bridge over the Saline River, captured and brought to Mount Elba 260 prisoners, nearly 300 horses and mules, and a large number of contrabands, all, including the march of 80 miles to Long View and back, in the surprising short space of twenty-four hours. Our loss throughout the expedition was but 2 killed and 8 missing. The conduct of the officers and men throughout was most gallant and energetic, and deserves the highest commendation. I will take occasion in a special report to make mention of individual cases of meritorious and gallant conduct.

I am, very respectfully,

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Pine Bluff, April 6, 1864.

MAJOR: In connection with my report of the Mount Elba and Long View expedition, I desire to make the following special report of individual cases of gallant and meritorious conduct: I am indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and Lieutenant-Colonel Marks, of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, for the skillful and gallant manner in which they met and repulsed the enemy at Mount Elba. With about 600 men they engaged and defeated about 1,500 of the enemy. Majors Walker and Scudder, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, are entitled to great credit for their gallantry in following and harassing the enemy with a force of about 100 men after his defeat at Mount Elba. Lieutenants Greathouse, of the First Indiana Cavalry, and Young, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, are deserving of the highest praise for the masterly manner in which they created a diversion in the direction of Monticello, and more especially for their gallantry, energy, and skill in the execution of the raid to Long View and return, the particulars of which are detailed in my official report of the Mount Elba and Long View expedition. Captain Barnes, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, has placed me under obligations to him for valuable assistance in the construction of the pontoon bridge across the Saline, which was under his immediate charge. He is also entitled to credit for his promptness in discovering the enemy previous to his attack upon Mount Elba and his endeavors to hold him in check. Sergeant Davis, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, in command of a section of mountain howitzers, deserves much credit for his coolness and courage in the time of greatest danger and for the skillful manner in which he managed his guns. Major Owen, commanding First Indiana Cavalry; Major Spellman, commanding Seventh Missouri Cavalry, and Captain Smith, commanding detachment Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, are all entitled to honorable mention for energetic and meritorious conduct generally.

I am, very respectfully,

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *April* 9, 1864.

Major McCauley has just come in, having been out on a five days' scout. He went through Monticello and Long View to Hamburg, to within 15 miles of the Louisiana line. Had a skirmish; killed 2, and captured 2 lieutenants and 17 men. He reports the country this side of the Saline as abandoned by the enemy with the exception of a few straggling bands. Heard at Monticello that General Steele had advanced to within 6 miles of Camden. I will send the Eighteenth Illinois on the first boat.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

General KIMBALL.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *April* 26, 1864.

GENERAL: My forces consist of the following regiments: Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, seven companies First Indiana Cavalry, ten companies Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and the Seventh Missouri Cavalry. I have ten pieces of artillery, manned by details from the cavalry regiments. My forces are disposed of at present as follows: 350 cavalry were with the train that was captured yesterday, the greater portion of which succeeded in cutting their way through and are coming in in small squads; 200 cavalry are with Major Walker, en route from Little Rock to this place; 25 cavalry are bearing a flag of truce to the scene of yesterday's affair; the remainder of the cavalry, about 775, are here, about 650 of which are dismounted. The Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry is here, about 550 strong. The Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, 226 strong, were sent out to co-operate with the train escort from Camden; they arrived at the Saline River about the time the train was captured; they were attacked from the opposite side soon after and held the crossing until night, when, to prevent their being cut off from this post, I sent out a dispatch ordering them in; they will probably be here to-night. We have no force at the crossing of the Saline now. The crossing can be reconstructed without retarding the movement of troops.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General WEST.

No. 40.

Report of Surg. Isaac Casselberry, First Indiana Cavalry, of Confederate losses at Mount Elba, &c.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *April* 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I was present soon after the engagement on the 30th ultimo at Mount Elba. From the number of the rebels killed I saw, and from the number killed reported by the party ordered out to pick up the wounded, I would state the rebels killed at 35, wounded severely, 55. For the number of wounded rebels I rely chiefly upon the statement to me by the rebel surgeon whom I found in charge of their wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISAAC CASSELBERRY,
Surgeon First Indiana Cavalry.

Lieut. JOHN HARDING, *Post Adjutant.*

No. 41.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Marks, Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, of expedition to Mount Elba.

HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH REGT. ILLINOIS VOL. INFY.,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 2, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the evening of March 27, 1864, I received orders to have my regiment in readiness to march at 5 p. m. of that day, with two days' rations in haversacks. In compliance with said orders I reported with my command at headquarters commander of the post of Pine Bluff, at the time specified, and received orders to take command of the infantry and march out on the Mount Elba road. I proceeded 8 miles out and camped for the night; started early next morning, and arrived at Mount Elba about sundown of the same day. We were preceded into camp by Col. Powell Clayton with the cavalry. The next morning I was left in command of the camp by Colonel Clayton. I immediately took precautions to guard against surprise, placing picket guards on all the roads leading into camp, and built a bridge across a bayou on the opposite side of the Saline River. The forces left under my command consisted of a detachment of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry of 7 commissioned officers and 230 enlisted men, commanded by Captain Davis, same regiment; a detachment of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry of 5 commissioned officers and 260 enlisted men, commanded by Captain Smith, same regiment; 30 of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, commanded by Captain Moore; Sergeant Davis and 23 men of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, and Corporal Galomut and 11 men of the First Indiana battery* with one steel gun. Nothing unusual occurred during the 29th.

Early on the morning of the 30th of March, Captain Barnes reported to me with a detachment of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry. I sent him out on the Monticello road with instructions to scour that road for some distance and report to me before night. He returned about 7.30 a. m., with the intelligence that he had encountered a body of the enemy's cavalry of about 100 men, advancing. I immediately prepared for a vigorous defense; a barricade was formed of rails and logs of the negro huts; skirmishers were sent to the front to engage the enemy and watch his movements. About 9.30 a. m. our skirmishers came into camp closely followed by the enemy, who made a spirited attack. About the time our skirmishers were driven in and the attack became general, Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins arrived upon the field and assumed the command. The enemy made but one advance and were speedily repulsed, the engagement not lasting over forty minutes. About 30 of the enemy were killed, about 60 wounded, and a number of prisoners were taken. Our loss was 2 men killed of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, and 2 men of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry missing, supposed to have been taken prisoners on picket guard.

The officers and men acquitted themselves in a manner becoming soldiers. Sergeant Davis and the men in charge of the artillery deserve praise for the manner in which they handled the pieces. Colonel Clayton arrived on the field shortly after the close of the

*Attached to First Indiana Cavalry.

action and ordered me to follow with the infantry and prisoners. From this time I was with the main command until our arrival at Pine Bluff on the night of March 31, 1864.

I have the honor to be, yours, respectfully,

SAML. B. MARKS,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Eighteenth Regt. Illinois Vol. Infy.

Lieut. JOHN HARDING,
Post Adjutant, Pine Bluff.

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HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ILLINOIS VOL. INFANTRY,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 6, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with your order of this date, I have the honor to report that all the officers and men under my command during the recent expedition acquitted themselves in a manner deserving the highest praise and commendation. I was specially indebted to Captain Davis, commanding detachment of Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, and Captain Smith, commanding detachment of Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, for valuable services rendered during the engagement; their coolness and bravery upon the field, and the skillful manner in which they handled their men, together with their quick appreciation of every means which added to our defense, contributed largely to the successful result. I was likewise under many obligations to Captain Moore, of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry. I had him and his company placed in the front in the timber, a very dangerous post, in immediate contact with the enemy. He was thus enabled frequently to advise me of their movements, which gave me time to anticipate them and make such disposition of my forces as to checkmate them at all points. This position he held until we opened upon the enemy with artillery. It gives me pleasure to have the opportunity of calling your attention to Sergeant Davis, of the Fifth Kansas, in command of two guns; he deserves the highest praise for his coolness and courage in time of greatest danger, and for the skillful and effective manner in which he handled his pieces.

Very respectfully,

S. B. MARKS,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighteenth Illinois Infantry.

Lieut. JOHN HARDING,
Post Adjutant.

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No. 42.

Report of Capt. Lyndsey J. Smith, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, of action at Mount Elba.

HDQRS. TWENTY-EIGHTH WISCONSIN INFY. VOLS.,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 6, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders from the post of Pine Bluff, I have the honor to report that where all of the officers and men did as well as the men of my command on the 30th of March, 1864, it is difficult to particularize. Alexander T. Seymour, first lieutenant Company I, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteers, who had command of the

picket guard March 30, 1864, is worthy of honorable mention for the manner in which he held the enemy in check with his picket guard several times during the advance of the enemy back as far as the advance picket-post, and skirmishing in a manner highly creditable to him and his men.

L. J. SMITH,
Capt., Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infy. Vols., Comdg. Regt.

Lieut. JOHN HARDING,
Post Adjutant.

No. 43.

Report of Lieut. Col. Edmund B. Gray, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry, of expedition to Mount Elba and operations October 26, 1863–May 13, 1864.

HDQRS. TWENTY-EIGHTH WISCONSIN INFY. VOLS.,
Pine Bluff, Ark., ——, 1864.

SIR: The Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry remained in camp at Little Rock, Ark., until the 26th of October, 1863, when their brigade marched in pursuit of the Confederate forces under General Marmaduke, which had been defeated by Col. Powell Clayton's forces at Pine Bluff on the 25th. Arriving at Benton, on the Saline River, the night of the 26th, the Second Brigade relieved the cavalry force stationed there, which was sent in pursuit of the enemy. More troops coming up from Little Rock on the 29th, the Second Brigade was put in motion and encamped at Rockport, on the Washita River, that night. The next day the expedition started on its return, and marching through Benton on the 31st, arrived at Little Rock on the 1st day of November, having performed a march of 100 miles. On the 7th of November the regiment was detached from the Second Brigade and ordered to join the command of Col. Powell Clayton at Pine Bluff, where it arrived on the 10th, after a march of 60 miles down the north bank of the Arkansas River. Here the regiment prepared comfortable winter quarters, and was employed in post and garrison duty until the 27th of March, when six companies (A, D, F, G, H, and I), under the command of Capt. L. J. Smith (Lieutenant-Colonel Gray being left in command of the forces remaining at Pine Bluff), joined with the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry and three regiments of cavalry, under Colonel Clayton, in an expedition intended to destroy the pontoon bridge at Long View on the Saline River. The expedition arriving at Mount Elba, on the Saline, the 28th of March, the infantry under Lieutenant-Colonel Marks, of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, was left to guard the bridge at that point, while the cavalry crossed and proceeded down the river to Long View. On the morning of the 30th, the infantry forces (six companies of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteers and the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry), less than 500 men, were attacked at Mount Elba by a force of 1,500 rebels, under General Dockery. Companies A, F, G, H, and I of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry deployed as skirmishers, held the enemy back for nearly two hours, when they were recalled to receive a charge made by the enemy, in which he was handsomely repulsed, leaving 100 killed and

wounded on the field. At this stage of the fight the cavalry under Colonel Clayton came up, and crossing the river the cavalry and infantry pursued the enemy 10 miles to Centreville that night. The next day the expedition returned to Pine Bluff, bringing 320 prisoners, the infantry having made a march of 82 miles. A detachment of 350 men of the regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Gray, left Pine Bluff on the 28th of April, with orders to proceed to Mount Elba by the pontoon bridge across the Saline River, and guard it until the expedition under Brigadier-General Andrews, intended to carry supplies to the army at Camden, should arrive. On the 30th, couriers from General Steele reached us with the information that our army was retreating in the direction of Little Rock, and the regiment returned to Pine Bluff, having made a march of 60 miles.

Since the return of the army to the line of the Arkansas the regiment has furnished heavy details for outpost and guard duty, and large fatigue details were employed day and night during the months of June and July.

Lieut. Col. E. B. Gray, being the senior officer since the discharge of Colonel Lewis, has commanded the regiment since the 1st of October, 1863. Since November 7, 1863, the regiment has been detached from its brigade, but retained position in the Second Brigade, Third Division (commander, Brig. Gen. S. A. Rice; division commander, Brig. Gen. F. Salomon), until May 13, 1864, when it was, at the reorganization of the army, placed in the First Brigade, First Division, under the same commanders. Company G was detached as provost guard at Pine Bluff December 24, 1863, and relieved by Company E March 8, 1864. Company D was detached to take charge of pontoon bridge at Pine Bluff August 1, 1864.

Capt. M. G. Townsend, Company B, serving as acting assistant inspector-general on the staff of Brigadier-General Rice, was killed in action at the battle of Marks' Mills, April 25, 1864.

Enlisted men killed in action at Mount Elba, 2; enlisted men captured at Marks' Mills, 1; enlisted men died of disease, 43; enlisted men discharged for disability, 27; enlisted men deserted, 2.

E. B. GRAY,
Lieut. Col., Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Vol. Infy., Comdg. Regt.

AUG. GAYLORD,
Adjutant-General of Wisconsin.

No. 44.

Reports of Lieuts. Grover Young, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and Frank M. Greathouse, First Indiana Cavalry, of expedition to Long View.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *April* 2, 1864.

COLONEL: We have the honor to report to you the following details of our proceedings while detached from your command on our late expedition: In pursuance with your orders, after leaving you at Mount Elba we proceeded to Warren, reaching there at 12 a. m. There we took some 5 or 6 prisoners. We then moved out on the west side of there and came into the Warren and Long View road some distance from there. On our way there we picked up several

prisoners. When we came to the fork of Long View and Camden road, which is some 2 miles from Long View, we took 4 prisoners, and learned from them that there had been a train of nine wagons and 25 men passed out a short time ahead of us. We sent a party out after them, burnt the wagons, and captured the men. We learned from them there was a large train crossing, which had come out from Monticello that day. We moved on, and reached their camp just at dark. We charged into their camp, surrounded them and demanded their surrender, and ordered them to fall in line. We coming on them so unexpectedly, and they being in such confusion, they obeyed immediately. There were 250 men, 7 or 8 officers. We destroyed their bridge, threw about 175 or 200 stand of arms in the river, burnt 30 wagons, which were loaded with baggage and camp equipage, also ammunition; took some 300 horses and mules. We then mounted our prisoners, and returned to our most worthy commander all O. K.

Colonel, we have the honor to be, your most obedient servants,

YOUNG and GREATHOUSE,
Lieutenants.

[Colonel CLAYTON.]

No. 45.

Report of Lieut. Col. Wilton A. Jenkins, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, of action at Mount Elba, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH KANSAS CAVALRY,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 3, 1864.

SIR: On the morning of Wednesday last, March 30, while in camp 5 miles south of the Saline River, I received an order from Col. Powell Clayton, commanding the expedition from this place, to proceed with the Fifth Kansas Cavalry to Mount Elba, to assist in holding that place against a reported advance of the enemy. Lieutenant-Colonel Marks, with portions of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin and Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, and about 50 of our poorest mounted cavalry, had been left to protect our train and pontoons at Mount Elba, where we crossed the Saline. Upon my arrival, after a rapid march, Lieutenant-Colonel Marks came forward and surrendered the command to me, which I immediately assumed. Our pickets had been driven in about the time, or just previous to my arrival upon the ground. Lieutenant-Colonel Marks had made preparations for defense by throwing up a small breast-work of logs, in the rear of which was posted part of the Eighteenth Illinois and the three small guns which were left with him. Dismounting my men and leaving the horses under the bluff and across the bridge, I sent the men to the front and threw out a line of skirmishers, some 600 yards in advance, with orders to hold the enemy in check as long as possible, thus enabling us to construct temporary barricades out of the rails which were lying scattered around, and in the fences near by. This was done under a heavy fire from the enemy, who now appeared in such force as compelled our skirmishers to fall back to the main command. Our line was formed as follows: The right was held by the Eighteenth Illinois, the left by the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin and two companies of the Fifth Kansas Cavalry, and the center by the three howitzers, supported by the dismounted cavalry. The enemy, evidently expecting an easy victory, kept moving for-

ward steadily, under cover of the timber, keeping up a continuous fire along his whole line. Up to this time but two or three rounds had been fired from our artillery, though the firing of small-arms had been severe for some time, but as the enemy was now advancing with loud cheers and could plainly be seen through the woods in our front, the howitzers were ordered to be served as rapidly as possible. In a short time it became evident that the severity of our fire was causing the rebels to fall back in great haste and confusion, seeing which I again advanced my skirmishers and threw forward my left some 300 or 400 yards. Numbers of their dead and wounded soldiers were now found, as well as a great many arms, which had been left in their hurried retreat. The horses were now brought across the river, and Majors Walker and Scudder, of the Fifth Kansas, with 100 men and one howitzer, were sent after the retreating foe, with orders to harass him as much as possible. I had just issued orders to have the dead collected, the wounded taken to the houses for surgical aid, and the arms to be gathered up, when Colonel Clayton arrived and my duties as commander ceased, and with him I rode forward to my regiment in pursuit of the enemy. The battle lasted about one hour and a half, during all of which time I was upon the ground and can speak favorably of both officers and men of the different commands, all behaving like veterans. Much credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Marks for his promptness in making preparations for defense, as well as his assistance to me during the engagement; also to Majors Walker and Scudder, Captain Smith, and in fact all the officers present, for the zeal and fearlessness displayed in having my orders carried out.

The enemy were more than double our number, and their loss, as ascertained, is as follows: Killed, 25; dangerously wounded and left behind, 27; slightly wounded, 60; while their loss in arms must be 200 or 300, many having thrown them away in their rapid retreat. The Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry lost 2 men killed, which was all the casualties on our part.

Very respectfully, &c.,

W. A. JENKINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

Lieutenant HARDING,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 46.

Report of Capt. Benjamin T. Humphrey, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, of action at Mount Elba.

HDQRS. SEVENTH CAVALRY MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
Pine Bluff, Ark., April 8, 1864.

SIR: In reply to your favor requesting the names of any officers or men of my command who may deserve special mention for gallant conduct during the late engagement near Mount Elba, I would respectfully say that where all behaved so well I could not speak in preference of any particular one without disparagement to others equally worthy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. T. HUMPHREY,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. JOHN HARDING,
Post Adjutant.

No. 47.

Report of Capt. William F. Creitz, Fifth Kansas Battery (improvised), of expedition to Mount Elba.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., *April* 7, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your circular of April 6, desiring the names of non-commissioned officers and men of my command that deserve special mention for meritorious conduct during the late expedition under your command, I would respectfully submit the following statement: All, both non-commissioned officers and men attached to my command, performed their respective duties so promptly and efficiently in the management of the guns throughout the action at Mount Elba and subsequent pursuit of the enemy, that I beg to be excused from making special mention of the conduct of any particular one of my command.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. CREITZ,
Captain, Commanding Fifth Kansas Battery.

Col. POWELL CLAYTON,
Commanding Post, Pine Bluff, Ark.

No. 48.

Report of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, C. S. Army, commanding District of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS,
Camden, May —, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the operations of the troops under my command in this district during the campaign just terminated: The infantry (Price's division) having been ordered from Spring Hill to Louisiana on March 18, and followed soon after by Fagan's brigade, then at Camden, left for the time only cavalry at my disposal.

On March 23, the advance guard of the enemy moved out from Little Rock on the military road toward Arkadelphia, and were followed on the succeeding day by their whole column. Their force, commanded by Major-General Steele in person, was estimated at 10,000 men of all arms, with 25 pieces of artillery and a train of 400 wagons, including pontoons. As soon as the intentions of the enemy were developed Cabell's brigade was moved from near Columbus, on Red River, toward Tate's Bluff, at the mouth of the Little Missouri. At the same time Brigadier-General Marmaduke, with Marmaduke's brigade, was ordered from Camden to that point. Brigadier-General Shelby had been with his command previously thrown across the Ouachita toward Princeton and Tulip, with instructions to watch the movements of the enemy, and in conjunction with Dockery's brigade and Wood's battalion to harass his rear, and, if practicable, cut off his trains. Unfortunately, before Brigadier-General Dockery could execute this order he was on March 29 [30] attacked at Mount Elba by a party of the enemy from Pine Bluff and completely routed. They at the same time captured at Long

View his entire train (twenty-six wagons) and about 200 prisoners. On March 29, the enemy occupied Arkadelphia, having been annoyed on the whole line of march by scouting parties and other small bodies of our troops. On April 1, they advanced to Spoonville, 14 miles, having awaited re-enforcements under Brigadier-General Thayer from Fort Smith, but which did not then arrive. Nine miles from Spoonville, at the crossing of the Terre Noir, Brigadier-General Marmaduke, with Marmaduke's and Cabell's brigades, being in front, Shelby threw himself upon their rear, killing near 100 and capturing 60, with little loss to himself. On April 3, they crossed the Little Missouri River at Elkin's Ferry. The next day (April 4) were attacked by Marmaduke and driven back some 3 miles.

In this affair we had only some 1,200 men actually engaged; captured one stand of colors and numbers of small-arms. The road was strewn with knapsacks abandoned in their flight. The Federal General Rice was slightly wounded.

On April 5, I left Camden and took the field in person. Almost all the stores and public property of value had been removed, and a small guard only was left in the town, with instructions upon the approach of the enemy to remove or destroy the pontoon bridge across the Ouachita as well as any remaining supplies useful to them. On April 7, I reached Prairie D'Ane with Dockery's and Crawford's brigades and Wood's battalion of cavalry, all of which had been withdrawn from the north side of the Ouachita River. I found Brigadier-General Marmaduke, re-enforced by Brigadier-General Gano's brigade (500 men) from the Indian Territory, drawn up in line of battle at the west end of the prairie, where some rude and imperfect intrenchments had been thrown up. Brigadier-General Shelby was 5 miles in advance, close up with the enemy, with whom he was constantly skirmishing.

The enemy having been re-enforced by Thayer's command of 5,500 men, with ten pieces of artillery, on April 6, advanced slowly and cautiously, and on the evening of the 10th attacked Shelby with great fierceness, massing sixteen pieces of artillery and keeping up an incessant cannonade until 9.30 p. m., but with very trifling loss on our part.

On the evening of the 11th, I withdrew my forces from Prairie D'Ane and fell back to a very strong position 8 miles from Washington, my object being to draw the enemy beyond the prairie to a point where I felt confident if he advanced I could attack him at great disadvantage, and destroy or capture the greater part of his train. With his habitual caution he moved but a short distance beyond our line of intrenchments, and on the morning of the 13th I found that he had fallen back during the night, and was retreating rapidly toward Camden. Brigadier-General Maxey, commanding Indian Territory, having arrived in person, and additional re-enforcements from his command, consisting of Tandy Walker's Choctaw Brigade, about 1,000 strong, then coming up, I moved again to the front with Maxey's and Fagan's divisions and engaged the enemy's rear guard, some 3,000 strong, with ten pieces of artillery, commanded by General Thayer. The enemy were strongly posted near Moscow in a skirt of timber on the edge of the prairie, and would not venture beyond it. Dockery being in the advance attacked with great intrepidity, and at one time captured a section of artillery, but which was afterward retaken by a greatly superior force and his troops driven back with some loss.

In this affair we dismounted one of the enemy's guns, which they concealed, and retreated during the night. Marmaduke with Shelby had been previously detached, if possible, to reach his front and impede his advance. This, owing to the distance to be traveled over, the scarcity of forage, and the exhausted condition of the horses, and the rapid flight of the enemy, was not fully successful, though every foot of their advance was disputed, and the debris of trains, camp equipage, and scattered clothing along their line of march showed how disastrous was their retreat from Moscow.

On the evening of April 15, the enemy occupied Camden, Colonel Lawther with his regiment gallantly disputing their advance and giving them volley after volley as he slowly retreated through the streets of the town. On April 16, I established my headquarters at Woodlawn, my troops being so disposed as to watch all the approaches to or from Camden, on the south side of the Ouachita River. On the 17th, the enemy sent out a foraging train of some 225 wagons, guarded by about 1,500 men and four pieces of artillery. Early on the morning of the 18th, dispositions were made to attack them on their return, Brigadier-General Maxey being in command of the expedition. This was a perfect success. Their whole train was captured, all their artillery, and a large number of prisoners. The enemy were completely routed, leaving near 500 dead (mostly negroes) on the field. Among the killed was Colonel Williams, who commanded them.* This was at a point on the old Washington, Munn's Mill, and Camden road known as Poison Spring. For full details of this brilliant affair, I respectfully refer to the reports of Brigadier-General Maxey and the subordinate commanders, herewith transmitted. On April 19, General Smith reached the field of operations, and on the 20th and following days Churchill's and Parsons' divisions of infantry arrived from Louisiana. On April 19, Brigadier-General Fagan received orders to cross the Ouachita with his own division, consisting of Cabell's, Dockery's, and Crawford's brigades, to which Shelby's brigade was temporarily attached, and to attack and cut off all trains of the enemy he might find on that side of the river. On the evening of the 23d, to divert attention from this movement, a feint was made upon the city of Camden. The Arkansas and Missouri divisions of infantry were moved up on the Wire road, the enemy's pickets driven in beyond the bridge over Two Bayous, 1 mile from the town, and shell thrown from Lesueur's battery into the woods on the other side, with good effect. Several of the enemy are said to have been killed; 23 were wounded, and great alarm produced, without any loss on our part.

On April 25, Brigadier-General Fagan, having made a forced march, attacked at Marks' Mills a train of several hundred wagons, guarded by a brigade of infantry, 500 cavalry, and six pieces of artillery, on its way from Camden to Pine Bluff for supplies. The victory was complete. All their wagons fell into our hands. All their artillery (6 pieces), 4 stand of colors, and 1,100 prisoners were captured, the enemy losing in killed near 500 men, Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, who was in command, being mortally wounded. The mail, containing official reports and returns from Major-General Steele, with information of much value to us, was found in train. The reports of Brigadier-General Fagan and those of his brigade commanders, forwarded herewith, furnish full particulars of the engagement.

* A mistake. See Williams' report, p. 743.

The enemy, on learning the loss of their train, evacuated Camden on the night of April 26, and at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 27th their rear guard crossed the Ouachita. The town was occupied by our advance about 9 a. m. of the same day. We found they had abandoned a large number of wagons, and thrown quantities of harness into the river, which were afterward saved.

Walker's division of infantry having arrived, General Smith had on April 26 assumed command of the Army of Arkansas in person, and I was assigned to the immediate command of the Arkansas and Missouri divisions of infantry, commanded, respectively, by Brigadier-Generals Churchill and Parsons, and the operations of the army [were] afterward conducted by the general commanding.

On the morning of April 28, a raft bridge having been laid during the night previous, the two divisions of infantry under my command crossed the Ouachita and moved rapidly in pursuit of the retreating enemy, whose route was plainly marked at every step by cast-off garments, and other property and plunder abandoned in their flight. We marched 16 miles and encamped on the ground occupied by the enemy the night before. At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 29th, my column was again in motion, and passing through Princeton bivouacked at night 11 miles beyond that town, making a distance of 28 miles marched that day. After a few hours' rest, at midnight the troops were again in line of march. The night very dark, with heavy rain, increased the toil of these weary and gallant soldiers. At daylight on April 30, we had come upon the enemy's rear, near Jenkins' Ferry, 22 miles from Princeton. Marmaduke's cavalry had already engaged them, when at 8 a. m. my command was moved forward into action. Churchill's division Arkansas infantry being in the advance was pushed rapidly to the support of Marmaduke's command, then skirmishing sharply with the enemy, Parsons' division Missouri infantry being held in reserve. The nature of the ground, swampy, with dense woods and undergrowth, rendered the movements of the troops very difficult, and the falling rain increased the discomfort of men already nearly exhausted by long marches and loss of rest. The line was formed, and under all obstacles moved with spirit and alacrity to the attack. The enemy re-enforced rapidly, and an incessant roar of musketry attested the stubbornness of the conflict. For two hours, under a most destructive fire, with varying success, this division maintained the unequal contest greatly outnumbered by the enemy. Parsons' division being brought to their support, the whole line advanced with great steadiness, pouring volley after volley with fatal precision into the ranks of the foe. A section of Lesueur's battery had been brought to the support of the infantry and placed, at the suggestion of General Marmaduke, in the open field (Cooper's) and near the edge of the creek. The boggy ground was almost impassable, and it was with great effort that the guns were put in position. After firing a few rounds, being disabled by the loss of several horses, they were withdrawn. A section of Ruffner's battery, which had been also ordered up, was delayed by this movement and the nature of the road, and mistaking the line of the enemy for our own troops, was pushed far in advance, and the horses and most of the cannoneers being killed, the two guns were lost. The ammunition of the infantry giving out, my whole line was retired to the foot of the hill in our rear. Walker's division now going into action my command was ordered up to its support, the entire force of the enemy being engaged. The

contest now raged with great violence, when the enemy yielded the ground, leaving his dead and wounded; many wagons, his India-rubber pontoons (cut, and for the time rendered useless), and much spoil fell into our hands.

The reports of Generals Churchill and Parsons, with those of brigade and other commanders, are inclosed herewith and referred to as giving full information in detail of the operations of their respective commands during the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, which ended the campaign.

In closing this report I beg leave to acknowledge the prompt and effective support rendered me by Brigadier-General Maxey and his troops. Leaving the District of the Indian Territory, which he commanded, he joined me at a time when the necessity for re-enforcements seemed greatest, and until relieved from duty here after the evacuation of Camden by the Federal forces continued to perform most efficient service.

I regret that the country was deprived, temporarily, of the services of Brigadier-General Gano (of Maxey's division) by a severe and painful wound received in a skirmish near Munn's Mill, at a period when that bold and experienced officer would have added fresh laurels to those already gained on many hard-fought fields. To the general officers of my own immediate command—Brig. Gens. J. F. Fagan, J. S. Marmaduke, W. L. Cabell, T. P. Dockery, J. O. Shelby, and Colonel Greene—I desire to return my acknowledgments for their prompt, efficient, and gallant services. To these and to the cavalry under them the country owes a debt of gratitude for their indomitable perseverance in harassing and annoying the enemy, impeding his movements, crippling and demoralizing his forces until final victory crowned their efforts, and the army of Steele, foiled in its purpose, turned from its line of march to Red River, was driven for temporary refuge to Camden. The infantry divisions under Brigadier-Generals Churchill and Parsons, having returned by forced marches with their laurels fresh from the fields of Louisiana, fully sustained their old reputation. To the gallant leaders of these forces and their brigade commanders—Brig. Gens. J. C. Tappan, A. T. Hawthorn, J. B. Clark, jr., and Cols. L. C. Gause and S. P. Burns—the South is indebted for results which attest fully the patient endurance and fortitude of their troops. My staff merit my highest commendation. Lieut. Col. J. F. Belton, assistant adjutant-general, was with me throughout the campaign, conspicuous for the intelligent discharge of his duties and his gallantry on the field. Maj. Thomas L. Snead, on this, as on other important occasions, rendered me very valuable service by his cool, ripe judgment and experience and the efficient, prompt, and fearless manner in which he bore himself on the field. I regret that his services are lost to the army in the field, but only to be given to his country on another and perhaps as important an arena. Maj. G. A. Gallagher, Capt. J. W. Lewis, and S. H. Buck, assistant adjutant-generals; Lieut. Col. Clay Taylor, chief of ordnance and artillery; Capt. T. J. Mackey, chief engineer; Maj. Isaac Brinker, chief quartermaster; Maj. N. S. Hill, chief commissary of subsistence; Capt. A. Sigourney, chief paymaster; Surg. Thomas D. Wooten, medical director, and Surg. C. M. Taylor, medical inspector, are all deserving of high praise and entitled to my thanks.

To my personal staff, consisting of Lieuts. R. T. Morrison and Celsus Price, assisted by Col. Washington L. Crawford, Capt. D. C.

Cage, and Lieut. B. F. Scull, as volunteers, I am particularly indebted for the prompt and accurate manner my orders were transmitted to the various commands. Of these, Lieutenants Scull and Price, with my orderly (Private D. Kavenaugh), particularly distinguished themselves at Jenkins' Ferry by responding with alacrity to a call for volunteers to reconnoiter the enemy's position, riding coolly up to their ranks and receiving a heavy volley, which disclosed the Federal lines, but unfortunately took effect upon Lieutenant Scull, fracturing his leg, which was afterward amputated.

Nor while enumerating the chivalric services of the living can the deeds of the heroic dead be forgotten. Their bright example will light others onward in the path to glory. The names of Grinsted, Cocke, Pettus, and Harris, who fell while gallantly leading their regiments, will be perpetuated with the memory of other heroes in the hearts of a grateful people.

Respectfully submitted.

STERLING PRICE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. W. R. BOGGS.
Chief of Staff, Trans-Mississippi Department.

No. 49.

Organization of the Confederate forces in Arkansas, General E. Kirby Smith commanding, April 20, 1864.

DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS.

Maj. Gen. STERLING PRICE.*

ESCORT.

14th Missouri Battalion, Maj. Robert C. Wood.

FAGAN'S CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES F. FAGAN.

Cabell's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM L. CABELL.

1st Arkansas, Col. James C. Monroe.
2d Arkansas, Col. T. J. Morgan.
4th Arkansas, Col. A. Gordon.
7th Arkansas, Col. John F. Hill.
Arkansas Battalion, Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Gunter.
Arkansas Battery (Blocher's).

Dockery's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS P. DOCKERY.

12th Arkansas Battalion Sharpshooters.
18th Arkansas.
19th Arkansas (Dockery's) Lieut. Col. H. G. P. Williams.
20th Arkansas.

Crawford's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD.

2d Arkansas (Slemons'), Capt. O. B. Tebbs.
Crawford's Arkansas Regiment.
Wright's Arkansas Regiment, Col. John C. Wright.
Arkansas Battalion, Maj. James T. Poe.
Arkansas Battalion, Maj. E. L. McMurtrey.

*Assumed command of the Arkansas and Missouri divisions April 26.

Artillery.

Arkansas Battery, Capt. W. M. Hughey.

MARMADUKE'S CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN S. MARMADUKE.

Greene's Brigade.

Col. COLTON GREENE.

3d Missouri, Lieut. Col. L. A. Campbell.
4th Missouri, Lieut. Col. William J. Preston.
7th Missouri, Col. Solomon G. Kitchen.
8th Missouri, Col. William L. Jeffers.
10th Missouri, Col. Robert R. Lawther.
Missouri Battery, Capt. S. S. Harris.

Shelby's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH O. SHELBY.

1st Missouri Battalion, Maj. Benjamin Elliott.
5th Missouri, Col. B. Frank Gordon.
11th Missouri, Col. M. W. Smith.
12th Missouri, Col. David Shanks.
Hunter's Missouri Regiment, Col. De Witt C. Hunter.
Missouri Battery, Capt. Richard A. Collins.

MAXEY'S CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL B. MAXEY.

Gano's Brigade.

Col. CHARLES DE MORSE.

29th Texas, Maj. J. A. Carroll.
30th Texas, Lieut. Col. N. W. Battle.
31st Texas, Maj. Michael Looscan.
Welch's (Texas) company, Lieut. Frank M. Gano.
Texas Battery, Capt. W. Butler Krumbhaar.

Second Indian Brigade.

Col. TANDY WALKER.

1st Regiment, Lieut. Col. James Riley.
2d Regiment, Col. Simpson W. Folsom.

WALKER'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN G. WALKER.

Brigade commanders: Brig. Gens. Thomas N. Waul, William R. Scurry, and Col. Horace Randal.*

ARKANSAS DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. CHURCHILL.

Tappan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES C. TAPPAN.

19th Arkansas (Dawson's), 24th Arkansas, } Lieut. Col. William R. Hardy.
27th Arkansas, 38th Arkansas, } Col. R. G. Shaver.
33d Arkansas, Col. H. L. Grinsted.

*Hawthorn's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER T. HAWTHORN.

Gause's Brigade.

Col. LUCIEN C. GAUSE.

26th Arkansas, Lieut. Col. Iverson L. Brooks.
32d Arkansas, Lieut. Col. William Hicks.
36th Arkansas, Col. James M. Davie.

* Composition of brigades not of record.

MISSOURI DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. MOSBY M. PARSONS.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. CLARK, Jr.

8th Missouri, Col. Charles S. Mitchell.
9th Missouri, Col. R. H. Musser.
Missouri Battery, Capt. Samuel T. Ruffner.

Second Brigade.

Col. SIMON P. BURNS.

10th Missouri, Col. William M. Moore.
11th Missouri, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Murray.
12th Missouri, Col. Willis M. Ponder.
16th Missouri, Lieut. Col. P. W. H. Cumming.
9th Missouri Battalion Sharpshooters, Maj. L. A. Pindall.
Missouri Battery, Capt. A. A. Lesueur.

No. 50.

Returns of Casualties (incomplete).

Return of Casualties in the Confederate forces in the engagement at Poison Spring, Ark., April 18, 1864.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	
FAGAN'S DIVISION.										
Cabell's brigade			6			35			7	48
Crawford's brigade			1			7				8
Division total			7			42			7	56
MAXEY'S DIVISION.										
Gano's brigade:										
29th Texas Cavalry *			1			4				5
30th Texas Cavalry *			1	1	14	15				16
31st Texas Cavalry *			1			3				4
Welch's cavalry company *				2	4	6				6
Krumbhaar's battery										
Total †			3			28			3	34
Walker's brigade:										
1st Regiment					3	3				3
2d Regiment	1	3	4		4	4				8
Total ‡	1	3	4		7	7				11
Greene's brigade: §										
Burbridge's regiment					6	6				6
Greene's regiment ‖	1	1	2	1	4	5				7
Total	1	1	2	1	10	11				13
Division total			9			46			3	58
Grand total			16			88			10	114

* De Morse's report.
† Maxey's report.
‡ Walker's report.
§ Temporarily attached.
‖ Lieut. James R. Stotts killed.

Return of Casualties in the action at Marks' Mills, April 25, 1864.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
FAGAN'S DIVISION.										
Cabell's brigade:										
1st Arkansas	2	11	13	1	22	23				36
2d Arkansas		2	2		21	21				23
4th Arkansas		4	4	4	15	19				23
Hill's regiment*										
Gunter's battalion	1	4	5		23	23				28
Total†	3	21	24	5	81	86				110
Total‡			31			62			93	186
Dockery's brigade§			10			40			50	100
Shelby's brigade:‖										
Elliott's battalion*										
Gordon's regiment				1		1				1
Hunter's regiment				1	2	3		1	1	4
Shanks' regiment					2	2				2
Smith's regiment*										
Total				2	4	6		1	1	7
Grand total			41			108			144	293

Return of Casualties in the Confederate forces in the engagement at Jenkins' Ferry, Ark., April 30, 1864.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
CHURCHILL'S DIVISION.										
Tappan's brigade:										
Hardy's regiment	1	7	8	1	17	18				26
33d Arkansas	2	19	21	7	64	71				92
Shaver's regiment		4	4	3	19	22				26
Total	3	30	33	11	100	111				144
Hawthorn's brigade*										
Gause's brigade§	4	12	16	2	65	67				83
Dockery's brigade§		1	1		14	14		1	1	16
Division total	7	43	50	13	179	192		1	1	243
PARSONS' DIVISION.										
Clark's brigade:										
8th Missouri		7	7	6	16	22				29
9th Missouri		7	7	2	43	45				52
Ruffner's battery		4	4	2	4	6				10
Total		18	18	10	63	73				91
Burns' brigade:										
10th Missouri¶	1	2	3	1	6	7				10
11th Missouri		2	2		15	15				17
12th Missouri		1	1		2	2				3

* No report.
† Regimental reports.
‡ Cabell's report.
§ Not reported by regiments.
‖ Temporarily attached.
¶ Lieut. Col. Simon Harris killed.

Return of Casualties in the Confederate forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	
PARSONS' DIVISION—continued.										
Burns' brigade—Continued.										
16th Missouri	.....	5	5	1	19	20	.....	.....	.....	25
Sharpshooters	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	4
Lesueur's battery*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1	10	11	2	46	48	.....	.....	.....	59
Division total	1	28	29	12	109	121	.....	.....	.....	150
MARMADUKE'S DIVISION.										
Marmaduke's brigade:										
Burbridge's regiment	1	.....	1	2	10	12	.....	.....	.....	13
Greene's regiment	.....	6	6	7	24	31	.....	.....	.....	37
Total	1	6	7	9	34	43	.....	.....	.....	50
Grand total	9	77	86	34	322	356	.....	1	1	443

No. 51.

Report of Brig. Gen. James F. Fagan, C. S. Army, commanding division, of action at Marks' Mills.

HEADQUARTERS FAGAN'S DIVISION,
Camp Scurry, May 7, 1864.

COLONEL: In accordance with instructions from district headquarters, on the 22d ultimo I moved with my division to Eldorado Landing, where I was joined by General Shelby's brigade. I was to cross the Ouachita, interrupt the enemy's line of communication toward Arkansas River, destroy his supplies, &c. Reaching Eldorado Landing on the 24th, and hearing from scouts previously sent out by General Shelby that a train had left Camden for Pine Bluff guarded by a large force of the enemy, I made quick preparations for a move against it. Early next morning, with no train except ordnance and ambulance, we moved toward Mount Elba, on the Saline. The enemy's train was one day's march in advance of us. By quick and heavy marching we gained a point before halting that commanded that portion of the road still between the enemy and his crossing of the Saline at Mount Elba. This was about midnight, when after having marched 45 miles a halt was made to rest. I had gained a position on a neighborhood road intersecting the Camden and Pine Bluff road at Marks' Mills. My scouts before daylight brought me the news of the enemy's camp. He had yet to pass Marks' Mills. I determined to attack him at that point. Moved out at daybreak, Shelby's division in front (Shelby's and Crawford's brigades) and Cabell's division (Cabell's and Dockery's brigades) bringing up the rear. On nearing the main road I ordered General Shelby with his division to move rapidly to the right and place himself in front of the enemy and between his train and Mount Elba. General Cabell's division was dismounted and placed in line of battle parallel to the

*No casualties.

road on which the enemy was moving. Skirmishing parties were thrown forward. They were fired on by the enemy. General Cabell's brigade opened the fight in a bold and vigorous manner. Soon Dockery's brigade was in position on the left, when it, too, promptly engaged the enemy. Owing to the distance General Shelby had to travel his attack was not simultaneous with General Cabell's. Soon, however, and when Cabell's division was hotly engaged and acting in the most determined and gallant manner, General Shelby's opening guns proclaimed him in the place intended. Down he came upon the head of the enemy's train, which was now pushing to gain the crossing at Mount Elba, driving everything before him, capturing many prisoners, wagons, arms, &c. The engagement was now general. The enemy's lines could not sustain the combined attack. They wavered and showed signs of giving way. Our brave troops moved upon them with terrible and crushing effect. It was not long before the enemy's forces broke in dismay and confusion, completely routed. Our victory was decided and complete.

The forces opposed to our own were not less than 2,500, mostly infantry. Five hundred of them were killed and wounded. One entire infantry brigade (Second, of Salomon's division, Seventh Army Corps) we captured with all their arms. Many other prisoners were taken (in all over 1,300), 6 pieces of artillery (all they had), their entire train of 300 wagons, a large number of ambulances, very many small-arms, and 150 negroes.

It is but due our troops to mention that they fought a force superior in number. A regiment at Mount Elba to guard the crossing had been sent out, which, together with other similar details and one-fourth of Cabell's division to hold horses, reduced my command to less than 2,500. It is too frequently the case that all are reported as having done their whole duty, when perhaps the facts do not sustain the assertion. In this engagement I am proud to say no exaggeration or embellishment is necessary to entitle the troops under me to the entire confidence and full praise of their commanding generals. The rich fruits of the engagement show with what determination and bravery these gallant men fought. To Brigadier-Generals Cabell and Shelby, commanding divisions, and to Brigadier-General Dockery, Colonels Monroe, Shanks, and Wright, commanding brigades, I take pleasure in according the highest praise. They are well deserving of that credit and honor that attaches to brave and gallant conduct. For an account of our loss attention is called to the reports of division commanders. It does not exceed, however, 150 killed and seriously wounded.

To my staff I am indebted for material aid. My assistant adjutant-general, Captain Thomas, and my aide-de-camp, Captain Belding, who have for more than three years of struggle and war been with me, deserve again all I can say of brave and gallant officers. Major Duval, quartermaster; Major Fall, commissary of subsistence; Maj. John D. Adams, Captain Anderson, and Lieutenant Gause, volunteer aides-de-camp; Major Rapley and Capt. W. F. Bourne, acting assistant inspector-generals, were active throughout the engagement in the discharge of important duties. I take pleasure in thanking Col. C. J. Turnbull for valuable assistance rendered me on the expedition, as well as for his daring and gallant conduct on the field. He is an officer of high merit. This report could be continued at much length in mention of individual daring and gallantry during the engagement, but where every one discharged his

whole duty it is difficult to particularize. At the close of the engagement, which lasted about four hours, heavy details were necessarily made to take charge of the prisoners, wagons, ambulances, artillery, loose horses, mules, &c., to be taken to the rear. A strong force was necessary for the safe passage to the south bank of the Ouachita of these prisoners and property. This, with my loss in the fight, reduced my force near 1,500 men. It was night before I got the train and prisoners on their way. We bivouacked on the battle-field, and early next morning moved up the Saline River, hearing that a Federal train was then en route from Princeton to Little Rock. I continued for several days (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) attempting a crossing of the Saline, but without success. The rumor of the Federal train proved incorrect. The river was swimming at every point, and on arriving at the last crossing before getting to the military road, and finding it utterly impossible to cross there (Pratt's Ferry), I moved out on the Princeton and Benton road, where I remained Thursday night, within 25 miles of Princeton, and till after 7 o'clock next morning, hoping to hear something from district or department headquarters, as I had several days before dispatched to district headquarters my route.

Hearing nothing of the evacuation of Camden on Friday morning, and being entirely without forage and subsistence, I moved out toward the Ouachita at the only point where anything of forage, &c., could be had between Princeton and Arkansas River. Just before midnight, when 34 miles from Jenkins' Ferry, I received a brief dispatch stating the enemy was marching on Little Rock, and was within 8 miles of Jenkins' Ferry. I at once ordered everything put in readiness, and by the time that I could see the road moved as rapidly as the animals could travel for the scene of action on the 30th. On my arrival the fight had just closed. Being ordered by General Smith to do so, I ordered a part of Shelby's brigade forward. They reached the ferry, when further pursuit was impossible.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your friend and obedient servant,

J. F. FAGAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas.

No. 52.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William L. Cabell, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring and action at Marks' Mills.

HEADQUARTERS CABELL'S BRIGADE,
April 20, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to state that on the evening of the 17th, I was detached from Fagan's division and ordered to report to General Marmaduke for special duty. On the night of the 17th, we left camp and moved to attack the enemy, who had a large commissary train under their protection. After moving out and marching a short distance the command returned to camp. Early on the morning of the 18th, I being the senior officer of Fagan's division present,

Colonel Crawford was ordered to report to me with his brigade. Immediately after he reported I moved, under the direction of General Marmaduke, to attack and to capture the Federal train, then on the Camden and Prairie D'Ane road, about 10 miles distant. After marching up that road to the vicinity of the Poison Spring my advance was fired on by the enemy's advance guard. I dismounted all my command except Morgan's regiment and Gunter's and McMurtrey's battalions, and moved up on foot and formed line of battle immediately in front of the enemy, Crawford's brigade on the right, Hughey's battery in the center, and Cabell's brigade on the left; Hill's regiment, of Cabell's brigade, held in reserve as a support to the battery. Morgan's regiment, of Cabell's brigade, was sent to the rear on the Camden road about 2 miles to prevent the enemy from re-enforcing from Camden; Gunter's battalion, of Cabell's brigade, was ordered to protect our extreme left flank; McMurtrey's battalion, of Crawford's brigade, was ordered to protect our extreme right flank. After these dispositions were made I ordered out a heavy line of skirmishers from each brigade. The skirmishers moved out rapidly and kept up a brisk fire on the enemy, driving them back several times.

After my line of battle was formed General Maxey arrived with his command, and being the senior officer present assumed command, placing his division of Texans and Indians on the left. After getting his division into line he attacked the enemy's right flank. I was ordered as soon as I heard that this division was heavily engaged with the enemy to open with my artillery. This order was obeyed. My artillery opened at and kept up a continued fire on the enemy as well as the train. The practice of this battery, commanded by Captain Hughey, was magnificent. After a very severe and heavy cannonading with my battery, and after Maxey's division had become well engaged with the enemy, I moved up my whole command by direction of General Maxey; moved across an open field for about 200 yards, the enemy being under cover of the timber in front. After reaching the timber I halted Cabell's brigade for a few moments to form line, the enemy then being in front with a heavy line of skirmishers about 80 yards distant. I ordered my men to charge them at once, which they did in grand style (Monroe's regiment on the right, Gordon's in the center, and Trader's State troops on the left), driving the enemy before them from the train under a very heavy fire. I then ordered Crawford's brigade to move up rapidly, which was done, and to assist in pursuit of the fleeing enemy. I continued with my division, which had been re-enforced by Greene's brigade, to pursue the enemy until he was scattered and completely routed and we had complete possession of the train and all his artillery, which was captured by my command, Gordon's regiment, of Cabell's brigade, capturing one rifled piece; McMurtrey's battalion, of Crawford's brigade, capturing two howitzers, and Crawford's and Wright's regiments, of the same brigade, the fourth piece.

After I had continued the pursuit as far as I considered it necessary, about 2½ miles, and my men being much exhausted, as the senior officer present I stopped further pursuit and ordered all the troops to withdraw. This order was repeated by General Marmaduke, who arrived on the field immediately afterward, which was done in as good order as could possibly be done, mixed up as the different commands were. Never were men known to fight better than my whole command. It was a continuous huzza from the

moment the command to charge was given to the close of the fight. Both officers and men behaved with the greatest coolness and with the greatest gallantry. It would be doing wrong to particularize when every one did so nobly. I must mention, however, the gallant conduct of Colonels Monroe, Gordon, Trader, and Morgan; also Majors Harrell, Reiff, Arrington, and Portis, and Lieutenant-Colonels O'Neil, Fayth, and Bull, of Cabell's brigade. Colonel Hill, although not engaged, did great service with his command in getting the train off the field. Colonel Crawford, commanding brigade, acted with the greatest gallantry. I refer you to his report in reference to his officers.

The enemy's strength was about 2,500 men, from all the information I could get—1,500 negroes and about 1,000 white troops, with four pieces of artillery. The number of killed of the enemy was very great, especially among the negroes. You could track our troops by the dead bodies lying on the ground. I estimated his loss, from what I saw and heard from reliable officers, as follows: Killed—negroes, 450; Indians, 7; white troops, 30; total, 487. No estimate of wounded can be made.

Morgan's regiment, which was stationed on the Camden road east of the battle-ground, killed at least 80 negroes and captured 35 prisoners. My whole command captured 62 prisoners—58 white troops and 4 negroes.

My staff officers—Major Duffy, inspector-general; Captain King, assistant adjutant-general; Surg. John H. Carroll; Lieut. W. J. Tyus, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenants Carlton and Inks, acting aides-de-camp, and Captain Ballos, quartermaster—deserve especial mention for their gallantry on the field.

Captain Hughey with his officers and men deserve especial mention for the skillful manner with which they handled their guns.

In conclusion, I ask to be allowed to bear testimony to the gallantry displayed not only by my own command of Arkansas troops, but to that of the Missouri, Texas, and Choctaw troops. I never did see troops display more gallantry and more kindly feelings toward each other. I would also state that I captured a stand of colors belonging to the negro regiment. I gave it to an officer to carry it to the rear, but have not been able to find either the officer or the colors since.

I regret the loss of several brave and good soldiers. My whole loss was as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Cabell's brigade	6	35	1
Crawford's brigade	2	7	.....
Total	8	42	1

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. CABELL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major OCHILTREE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Maxey's Division.

HEADQUARTERS CABELL'S BRIGADE,
May 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my division in the battle of Marks' Mills on the 25th of last month, being a portion of Fagan's division, which, together with Shelby's command, formed a command to operate east of the Ouachita River:

On the 23d, General Dockery was ordered to report to me, and I to command a division composed of Cabell's and Dockery's brigades. On the morning of the 25th, while marching to the road leading from Chambersville to Mount Elba, it was reported that a train of wagons belonging to the enemy, escorted by a large force, was moving from that place toward Mount Elba. The order of march that morning was, Shelby's division in front and Cabell's division in rear, Dockery's brigade, of Cabell's division, being rear guard to the whole command, and marched in rear of the wagons and ambulances. After getting in the neighborhood of the train General Shelby was ordered on the road leading toward Mount Elba to intercept the train and to attack in front and in the rear. Cabell's brigade moved up to the road leading direct to Marks' Mills. After detaching Hill's regiment and one company of Monroe's regiment and sending them to ascertain if there was any enemy on our left flank, in moving down the Marks' Mills road the enemy's pickets were soon encountered, and it was definitely known that the train was moving rapidly toward Mount Elba. I at once formed Monroe's regiment, of Cabell's brigade, in line of battle, dismounted them, and Colonel Monroe by my order threw out two companies rapidly as skirmishers and drove them back until I could dismount Cabell's brigade and form it into line of battle. This was done, Gunter's command, composed of his battalion and Pettus' battalion of State troops, on the right, Monroe's regiment on his left, and Morgan's regiment on Monroe's left, crossing the road, Gordon's regiment acting as a support to the battery, which was planted to sweep the road. Skirmishers were thrown out in front of our whole line, and were engaged all the time with those of the enemy. As soon as I commenced forming line of battle I sent my aid to General Dockery to hasten forward with his command. General Fagan being present ordered me to command Cabell's brigade and all the troops in my front, and that he would give General Dockery the necessary orders. After moving Cabell's brigade as far to the front as I deemed it prudent, until I could hear from General Dockery, I sent to General Fagan and informed him of my position, which was then across two roads leading in the road in which the train was moving, and which could be distinctly heard. I received orders to "move rapidly forward and attack the train." This order was promptly obeyed, and my whole line of skirmishers and all excepting two companies of skirmishers under Colonel Monroe, who were heavily engaged with the enemy, who were forming line of battle on my left, moved forward rapidly under a tremendous fire, driving him through the train and beyond it some 300 or 400 yards until they were completely routed, throwing down their arms and giving themselves up as prisoners. These men were captured by General Shelby's command, who were moving rapidly in their rear. Hearing heavy firing on my left flank and rear, I halted my men, formed line, and marched to the rear in line of battle, and moved forward in line to aid Colonel Monroe, who was fighting at least

1,500 infantry and a battery of artillery, which was posted in the road about 100 yards above a house, which was also filled with infantry. As fast as each regiment came into position it became heavily engaged with the enemy.

At this time Captain Hughey's battery of artillery was firing rapidly, and, from the movements of the enemy's lines, was evidently doing terrible work, and continued to fire grape and canister into the enemy's battery, which was about 400 yards in advance, until nearly all the horses and a good many of the cannoneers were killed. The musketry firing was terrible. Notwithstanding this terrible fire Cabell's brigade stood for an hour and a half without any assistance.

The brigade suffered here terribly, and some of its best officers and men were killed and many wounded. After this General Dockery's command came up on the left of Cabell's brigade and attacked the enemy vigorously, supported by Hill's regiment, of Cabell's brigade. I charged the enemy (about that time I heard two pieces of artillery, and I knew the gallant Shelby was coming to my relief) and drove him into the house and through the train, capturing 2 pieces of artillery and over 200 prisoners. (See Colonels Gordon, Monroe, Morgan, and Gunter's reports, which are respectfully submitted.) The train was then completely in our possession. The enemy, however, returned some distance higher up the road to our left and attempted to recapture the train by taking advantage of the confusion of the troops owing to the commingling of commands. Two regiments of Shelby's arrived. I immediately formed line of battle with Cabell's brigade and threw Shelby's two regiments as mounted men on my right and moved rapidly toward the enemy.

The firing at once became general and very heavy. My men continued to advance steadily, notwithstanding the heavy fire, and routed them the third time, and continued the pursuit until they were driven more than a mile beyond the rear of the train, when I halted the footmen and sent a cavalry regiment in pursuit, who captured many prisoners.

No report has been furnished by General Dockery with reference to the part his brigade took in the action; besides, I did not consider him under my control after the brigadier-general commanding informed me that he would carry them into action.

The killed and wounded of Cabell's brigade show how stubborn the enemy was and how reluctantly they gave up the train. Men never fought better. They whipped the best infantry regiments that the enemy had (old veterans, as they were called), and then in numbers superior to them.

It would be invidious to particularize any regiment when all fought, both officers and men, with gallantry and with such daring. Three different positions were taken; three different lines of battle formed by this brigade, and each time they drove the foul invader off with terrific slaughter. It is not detracting from any command to say that this brigade bore the brunt of the fight. For five hours it poured a deadly fire into the enemy's ranks. At the same time it was subjected to a fire from the enemy that has carried sorrow to many a family.

Colonels Monroe, Gordon, Morgan, Pettus, and Hill; Lieutenant-Colonels Basham (who was wounded), Bull, Harrell, Fayth; also Majors Reiff, Portis, and Adams, deserve great credit for daring and

intrepidity, as well as the faithful discharge of duty during the fight. The brave Lieutenant-Colonel O'Neil, of Monroe's regiment, fell at the front urging his men forward. Colonel Pettus fell mortally wounded while gallantly urging the men forward. Many officers and men fell that day who have left proud names for their State and friends to cherish.

This brigade here, as it did at the Poison Spring, charged the enemy with an intrepidity unknown, and bore the brunt of the fight, as it did there.

The conduct of this brigade, although sadness was sent to many a happy home, will never be forgotten. A grateful people will reward it for its heroism, and will mingle their tears with those of the survivors for those who fell on that bloody field.

It is with great pleasure that I am able to bear testimony to the gallantry of the Missouri troops and their gallant leader, General Shelby, and to the perfect harmony which characterized their every move with the Arkansas troops.

I also wish to return my thanks to Captains Belding and Thomas, of General Fagan's staff, and to Lieutenant Field, of my own staff, for their assistance. To Captain Belding and Lieutenant Field, both of whom exposed themselves regardless of all danger, I am particularly indebted for their assistance at a most critical moment. Lieutenant Field was seriously wounded.

My staff-officers—Major Duffy, inspector-general; Captain King, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant Inks, aide; Lieutenant Carlton, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Tyus, acting assistant adjutant-general; also, Dr. Carroll, brigade surgeon—acted with great gallantry and gave me great assistance. Lieutenant Field, who was wounded, was noted for his daring and intrepidity.

Captain Hughey and his battery deserve especial mention for their gallantry and for their successful practice. The number of the enemy's killed I estimate at 150; wounded, 300; prisoners, 1,300.

The number of prisoners captured by my command was nearly 500, including Colonel Drake, the Federal commanding officer. Exact number not known. Number of pieces of artillery, 4. The following is my loss, viz:

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Cabell's brigade	31	62	93
Dockery's brigade	10	40	50
Total	41	102	143

This embraces only wounded in hospitals. The slightly wounded would increase the number of wounded to over 200 in Cabell's brigade alone.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. CABELL,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. WYATT C. THOMAS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fagan's Division.

No. 53.

Report of Col. James C. Monroe, First Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

HEADQUARTERS MONROE'S REGIMENT,
In the Field, May 2, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the action at Marks' Mills on the 25th ultimo: On the morning of the 25th, my regiment was marching immediately in rear of General Fagan's escort, and when within about 1½ miles of the battle-field the escort was fired into. I immediately formed line of battle to the right of the road, dismounted, threw out two companies as skirmishers, and pushed forward. When about 80 yards from my horses my skirmishers engaged the skirmishers of the enemy and drove them steadily back to their main force. In the mean time General Cabell came up with the brigade and swung his left around and was marching in the direction the wagon train was traveling, when the enemy charged my line of skirmishers with an overwhelming force. I disputed every foot of ground, but was forced slowly back until General Cabell changed his front and moved up to my relief. At this time the whole regiment became engaged, and the enemy were driven back upon their battery and reserves, at which place a desperate fight ensued until my ammunition gave out. The firing on my part was then very slow for fifteen or twenty minutes, when I received a fresh supply of ammunition. I then opened upon them and pressed forward, when the enemy left their battery and moved to their left and took refuge in a house and among the wagons. Morgan and myself pressed forward after the enemy, leaving the battery to our left, and at the house above mentioned we captured about 100 prisoners. I formed them, placed a guard over them, with orders to take them to the rear. My regiment was at this stage of the fight very much disorganized or scattered. I reformed the regiment and pursued the enemy until the fight closed. After Cabell's brigade passed the battery several men who were worn out stopped to rest at the battery, when General Dockery's men came up, took them prisoners, and took possession of the battery.

My casualties are as follows: Killed, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, and 10 men; wounded, 1 captain, 2 sergeants, and 20 men; 13 killed, 23 wounded; 36 killed and wounded.

Respectfully,

J. C. MONROE,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Maj. JOHN KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 54.

Report of Col. T. J. Morgan, Second Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS REGIMENT,
Camp in the Field, May 2, 1864.

MAJOR: The part taken by my regiment in the engagement at Marks' Mills on the 25th ultimo was as follows: When we arrived

near the battle-ground we were ordered by the brigadier-general commanding to dismount and form a line of battle afoot on the left of the road (name of road not known), and were further ordered to move up on a line with Colonel Monroe's regiment. After joining my right with Colonel Monroe's left on the road we moved forward, having thrown out skirmishers. Our skirmishers soon engaged those of the enemy and drove them back. About a mile from where we dismounted we came up with the front wagons of the enemy's train, and under a heavy fire my regiment gallantly charged upon the train and assisted in killing a number of horses and mules, which caused the train to come to a halt. We were then ordered to face about and engage the enemy, who appeared to be moving up in our rear. We found them about 300 yards from where we were ordered to face about, strongly posted on an elevated point with a section of artillery.

We moved up to within 150 yards of the section of artillery and engaged them for about one hour and a half. We suffered considerable from the grape and shell of the enemy, but finally succeeded, with other regiments of the brigade, in driving them back and in capturing the enemy's artillery. A considerable number of the enemy took shelter under a house to the right of my regiment. We attacked them vigorously, and about 40 or 50 of them, including Colonel Drake, commanding the enemy's forces, who had been severely wounded, surrendered at the same time. Re-enforcements came up and we were compelled to fall back.

Again rallying my men, we poured another heavy fire into them, and about 100 more of the enemy surrendered. This closed the fight at this point, and we were then moved up to the assistance of General Dockery and drove the enemy before us down the Camden and Pine Bluff road to the enemy's hospital, where we were ordered to halt and form the regiment in line of battle in the apple orchard near the hospital. The fight closed here and we were withdrawn from the field.

It would be invidious for me to speak of the gallantry of any one officer in my regiment. They all did their duty. There were about 130 of my men in the fight.

We lost in killed 2, wounded 21, several of them mortally. Being entirely ignorant of the topography of the battle-field, I cannot give an accurate report.

I am, major, very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. JOHN KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 55.

Report of Col. A. Gordon, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, of action at Marks' Mills.

Harrell's battalion was on picket. After the enemy was routed, and I had passed the enemy's battery with most of my command, General Dockery's command came up and took William Morrison

and Lieutenant Wilson, of my command, and Colonel [Drake] prisoners, and claim to have taken the battery long after I had passed it.

I had 117 men in the fight, and 24 killed and wounded.*

Respectfully,

A. GORDON,
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Major JOHN KING, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 56.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas M. Gunter, Arkansas Battalion, of action at Marks' Mills.

CAMP NEAR LEWISVILLE, *May* 5, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to Special Orders, No. —, requiring a report of the part my command took in the action of Marks' Mills on April 25, 1864, I have the honor to report the following: On learning the locality of the enemy I dismounted my command south of the road leading from Camden to Pine Bluff and formed line of battle parallel with the road. I threw forward my skirmishers and immediately advanced toward the road, dressing on Colonel Monroe, who was on my left. My skirmishers here engaged a part of the enemy's train, which was endeavoring to escape in the direction of the mills or Pine Bluff. I immediately charged, capturing the train in my front and killing 3 negroes and 1 white man. I was then ordered to face by the rear rank and to move briskly in the direction of the main force of the enemy, which I did, Colonel Monroe now on my right. The engagement soon became general and desperate along the entire line of our brigade. I moved forward slowly, my right resting near the road then occupied by Captain Hughey's battery in the direction of the cabin on the hill, which was then occupied by the enemy, advising my men to take all advantages afforded them, the enemy having the superior position. After about one hour's hard fighting I moved forward, taking the cabin, 17 prisoners, and 2 pieces of artillery, which were in position near the cabin mentioned. After placing the prisoners in charge of one of my lieutenants, I moved forward in the direction of the large double house which stood north of east of small cabin. On reaching the house I found the enemy had surrendered in and about that locality. My command being scattered I reformed and moved on road in the direction of Camden. My men being much fatigued I failed to reach the last engagement. During the action I lost 1 lieutenant and 4 men killed, and 23 wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Pettus mortally, who has since died, 9 others severely wounded, the remainder slight. The officers and men of my command conducted themselves well during the action. Lieutenant-Colonel Pettus behaved in the most gallant manner, and rendered me material aid up to the time he was wounded. To particularize further would do injustice where all did so well.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. M. GUNTER,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Battalion and State Troops.

Maj. JOHN KING, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

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* Nominal list shows 4 men killed, 4 officers (Capt. J. P. Moody, Adjt. A. J. Quindley, and Lieut. J. L. Lewis, Company E, and Lieutenant Lewis, Company I) and 15 men wounded

No. 57.

Report of Col. William A. Crawford, Arkansas Cavalry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE,
In the Field, April 20, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part enacted by the troops of my brigade in the engagement with the enemy at Poison Spring on the 18th instant: A portion of my brigade, consisting of Crawford's and Wright's regiments and Poe's battalion, were dismounted and placed on the right of General Cabell's brigade as a support for Hughey's battery. The Second Arkansas Cavalry, Captain Tebbs commanding, were placed (mounted) on the extreme right to protect the flank. Skirmishers were placed in my front, who kept up a brisk and successful fire. I remained so placed until I was ordered forward by Brigadier-General Cabell, commanding division. My command moved rapidly and steadily forward, firing volley upon volley at the fleeing foe. The Second Arkansas Cavalry charged them on horseback, and men and officers acted well, capturing two pieces of the enemy's artillery. Captain Snell, of this regiment, deserves especial notice, and Captain Tebbs acted like a hero until he was wounded and carried from the field. My dismounted men pursued rapidly the enemy for 2½ miles, shouting and huzzaing, and bringing back with them four pieces of artillery that had been captured from the enemy. All, every officer and soldier, fought like men, and deserve much credit. The casualties in the brigade were 1 man killed and 7 wounded. I am much indebted to Captains Warren, McFarland, McCabe, and Lieutenant Webb, of my staff, for their valuable services. They discharged well their duties and acted most gallantly.

Very respectfully,

W. A. CRAWFORD,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Major KING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 58.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS CHURCHILL'S DIVISION,
Camden, Ark., May 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I herewith submit the following report of the part taken by my division, consisting of the brigades of Brigadier-Generals Tappan, Hawthorn, and Colonel Gause, and Dockery's dismounted troops, numbering in all about 2,000 muskets, in the action of the 30th ultimo at Jenkins' Ferry: On the morning of the 29th ultimo I was ordered to move forward, and made a forced march of 27 miles, reaching camp at dark. I received orders to resume the march at 12 o'clock that night. At the appointed hour I was again in motion, and continued to move through a furious storm of rain and through

mud ankle deep, until we overtook the enemy, about 7.30 a. m. At 8 a. m. I was ordered to deploy one of my brigades, under Brigadier-General Tappan, as skirmishers, and to move rapidly forward. The order was obeyed, but in a few minutes a second order countermanding the first was received ordering the deployment of only two regiments and the holding of the third regiment in reserve. The second order was in turn superseded by a third, which directed that only one regiment should be thrown out as skirmishers. It gives me pleasure to say that the above orders were all promptly executed. By this time my skirmishers were hotly engaged, and were in turn hotly pressed by the enemy. The two regiments which had been held in reserve were now pushed rapidly forward to their support, and never did troops move more eagerly or more handsomely to the charge. Like veterans they moved steadily forward across an open field, undaunted by a most destructive fire, with which the enemy met their advance. Seeing that I was outnumbered, I ordered Brigadier-General Hawthorn with his brigade to the support of Brigadier-General Tappan, and gallantly did he come to the rescue. The firing, now incessant, was terrific, and the struggle was desperate beyond description. Still our brave and fearless troops maintained their ground and drove the enemy before them; but he was again heavily re-enforced, and being overpowered we slowly and stubbornly yielded the ground, inch by inch, after two hours of severest fighting I ever witnessed. The division under command of Brigadier-General Parsons came up, and forming one brigade upon the right and the other upon the left of Colonel Gause's brigade, which had been held in reserve, the whole line thus formed moved to the support of the two brigades in front. The battle raged with the greatest fury along our entire line, and the roar of the musketry was almost deafening. Nothing could surpass the valor and courage of our troops. They dashed forward with an impetuosity and fearlessness unsurpassed in this war, and it was not until their ammunition was exhausted that they were withdrawn.

At this time Major-General Walker arrived upon the field with his division and was thrown into the action. After a short respite my division was ordered to move to his support. With eagerness and alacrity they once more rushed to the conflict, when the enemy broke and fled, leaving us the proud victors of the battle-field. Too much praise cannot be given to the private soldier, for if any one deserves the thanks of a grateful people it is the soldier in the ranks. I have to mourn the loss of many brave and gallant officers, who, although fallen, will live in the memories of us all.

The dismounted troops of Brigadier-General Dockery's brigade were detached from my division early in the action, and reported to Major Douglas, of General Smith's staff. They were posted across the creek and engaged the enemy on that part of their lines. In the engagement I had 64 killed and 270 wounded.

My thanks are due to Brigadier-Generals Tappan and Hawthorn and to Colonel Gause for the promptitude with which they executed all my orders, and for the skillful and masterly manner in which they handled their brigades. They were ever seen in the thickest of the fight cheering on their men to victory.

The following members of my staff—Maj. W. W. Dunlap, chief of artillery; Maj. H. M. Clark, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. A. H. Sevier, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. J. L. Thomas, paymaster, and volunteer aides Col. John W. Polk, Capt. C. E. Roys-

ton and Capt. C. J. Hanks—behaved with distinguished gallantry, were alike reckless of life and danger, and seemed rather to court death than to avoid it. To my chief surgeon, Dr. W. M. McPheeters, I am especially indebted for the prompt and faithful discharge of his duties in the field, as through his untiring zeal and unceasing attention to the wounded none were left uncared for. To my chief quartermaster, Maj. C. B. Moore ; chief commissary of subsistence, Maj. J. R. Upshaw ; and ordnance officer, Capt. C. E. Kidder, I am indebted for many valuable services, and for the promptness with which the command was supplied with forage, supplies, and ammunition.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. CHURCHILL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 59.

Report of Brig. Gen. James C. Tappan, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HDQRS. TAPPAN'S BRIG., CHURCHILL'S DIV.,
In the Field, May 2, 1864.

LIEUTENANT : I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the engagement which occurred on April 30 at Jenkins' Ferry, on Saline River, some 45 miles from Little Rock, Ark. : When we returned from Louisiana the enemy occupied Camden. They evacuated it on the night of April 26, and our forces took possession of it the next day. Thursday morning we crossed the river at Camden in pursuit of the enemy. Owing to the delay in crossing we only went 14 miles that day. We continued the pursuit on Friday, marching some 25 miles, and within 12 miles of Jenkins' Ferry. At 12 o'clock that night we resumed our march and continued it until we arrived within a mile of the Saline Bottom, when we halted and built fires to warm and dry the men. It had rained Friday evening and nearly all that night. The men were very wet and the roads quite muddy.

My brigade consisted of Grinsted's regiment, commanded by Col. H. L. Grinsted ; Dawson's and Portlock's (consolidated) regiments, commanded by Lieut. Col. W. R. Hardy, and Shaver's and Gaither's (consolidated) regiments, commanded by Col. R. G. Shaver. We had hardly finished building fires before we were ordered to advance. By this time the cavalry skirmishers had engaged those of the enemy. On reaching the brow of the hill, at the edge of the bottom, I was ordered by Brigadier-General Churchill, commanding the division, to deploy my brigade as skirmishers and to move forward at once and attack the enemy, who were posted in our front from a half to three-quarters of a mile. I instantly did as directed, selecting one company from each regiment as a reserve. As I was forming the line a subsequent order directed me to select Grinsted's

regiment also as a reserve, which I did. I immediately moved forward with the other two regiments. We passed through a field about 400 yards long, then a skirt of woods about 300 yards wide, and came to another field about 300 yards long. As we reached the end of this field the enemy commenced firing upon us. I advanced rapidly upon them, my line being so arranged that Lieutenant-Colonel Hardy's command was thrown into the field, with Colonel Shaver's command on his right, his left reaching to the edge of the field. The enemy's skirmishers were posted on a line about the center of the field, their line of battle being in the woods at the end of the same. My command drove in their skirmishers and became heavily and hotly engaged with their main line. Finding the force of the enemy much greater than was represented, I ordered Colonel Grinsted to move forward with his regiment to my support. As Colonel Grinsted came up to my line the enemy opened on us with an increased fire, and very heavily pressed my line. It was at this time that Colonel Grinsted was shot dead while gallantly leading his regiment forward.

I sent word to Brigadier-General Churchill of the condition of affairs, and that re-enforcements were needed to enable me to sustain my position. In a short time General Hawthorn came forward with his brigade and I formed my line on his right. Calling in my men who had been acting as skirmishers, I first engaged the enemy about 8 o'clock. From that time until Brigadier-General Hawthorn's brigade came up some half to three-quarters of an hour elapsed. About 10.30 o'clock Brigadier General Parsons' (Missouri) division came upon the field. About 11.30 o'clock I received orders to retire with my brigade. As I went off I met Major-General Walker's (Texas) division advancing to engage the enemy. About 12.30 o'clock we returned to the field with the balance of Brigadier-General Churchill's division, and remained there heavily engaging the enemy until 1.30 o'clock, at which time the enemy fled, leaving his dead and wounded on the field and destroying his pontoon bridge after crossing the river. This ended one of the most hotly contested engagements of the war. For full six hours the battle raged with a vehemence unsurpassed, my brigade having been engaged at least five out of the six hours.

I cannot speak too highly of the gallantry and bravery of my officers and men. They never hesitated to go wherever ordered, at one time charging through an open field upon the enemy protected and posted behind logs and trees. In the death of Col. H. L. Grinsted the army has lost a brave and gallant officer, the country a good and useful citizen. To Colonel Shaver, Lieutenant-Colonel Hardy, and Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson, who commanded Grinsted's regiment after the fall of its colonel, I am deeply indebted for the promptness with which they obeyed my orders and for the gallantry and zeal they manifested upon the field in the management of their commands. No officers could have acted with more coolness, bravery, and determination than they did, for which they deserve well of their country.

I am under great obligations to the members of my staff, Capt. Amos Tappan, Capt. J. J. Horner, Lieut. W. P. McCabe, and Lieut. C. E. Mitchell. They bore themselves with gallantry and rendered me great assistance. The same may be said of my volunteer aides, William F. Sale and E. E. Ives, of Arkansas.

My loss was as follows: Three officers killed and 11 wounded; 30 men killed and 100 wounded.

I herewith send reports of Colonel Shaver and of Lieutenant-Colonels Hardy and Thomson.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. TAPPAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. A. H. SEVIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 60.

Report of Lieut. Col. W. R. Hardy, Twenty-fourth Arkansas Infantry, commanding Nineteenth (Dawson's) and Twenty-fourth Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS HARDY'S REGIMENT,
In the Field, May 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of my regiment in the battle near Jenkins' Ferry on the 30th ultimo: My regiment was on the left of the brigade and deployed as skirmishers, with the exception of the color company, which was ordered to form part of the reserve for the brigade. After advancing a half mile or more we charged the enemy at double-quick through an open field to within 150 yards of their position in the woods behind logs and trees, and opened fire upon them at once. We held our position for over an hour under the most terrific fire, when, our ammunition being exhausted, and seeing the enemy about to flank me on the right, I ordered a retreat. My men fell back in good order to the rear, and being again formed with the brigade we marched back to the battle-field and remained until the engagement closed. My loss was 1 officer and 7 men killed and 1 officer and 17 men wounded.

I am, captain, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. HARDY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. A. TAPPAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 61.

Report of Lieut. Col. Thomas D. Thomson, Thirty-third Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD ARKANSAS INFANTRY,
Camp near Tulip, Ark., May 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I beg leave to submit the following report of my regiment in the engagement on the 30th ultimo near Jenkins' Ferry, on the Saline River: The regiment went into action under the command of Col. H. L. Grinsted, and I went in as lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. Colonel Grinsted being killed early in the action the command of the regiment fell upon me. I then commanded it through the fight, which lasted about five hours and a half. My regiment was cut up considerably, so much so that I was compelled to take it out about half a mile from the field to draw a fresh supply

of ammunition and to rest and recruit, about the time that General Walker's division went into the action. I was not permitted to remain there long, but was ordered on the field again to support Walker's division. Major Steele took command then, I being ordered to the hospital to get up what men there were there that were able to go in the fight. Captain Dickson, of Company A, seeing the color-bearer shot down, gallantly raised the colors and kept them up until he was cut down by three balls. The casualties are as follows: Killed, 2 officers and 19 men; wounded, 7 officers and 64 men.

Respectfully submitted.

Yours,

T. D. THOMSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. A. TAPPAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 62.

Report of Col. R. G. Shaver, Thirty-eighth Arkansas Infantry, commanding Twenty-seventh and Thirty-eighth Arkansas Infantry, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS SHAVER'S REGIMENT,
Camp near Tulip, Ark., May 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my regiment in the action near Jenkins' Ferry on April 30, 1864: Our brigade was directed to form line of battle on the hill near the bottom about 8 o'clock in the morning. Directly thereafter I received orders to deploy my regiment as skirmishers, being informed at the time that the regiments on my right and left would be likewise deployed as skirmishers, and that the whole line so deployed would act in concert. Soon after the order was given to advance I was notified that the order for the regiment on my right to be deployed as skirmishers had been countermanded, and that the said regiment would be held in reserve, with instructions to move to the support of that portion of the line most in need of it. I was also ordered to relieve the cavalry skirmishers in my front, who were then actively engaged with the enemy. My line of skirmishers was rapidly advanced and in good order, and I had occasion several times to restrain my men, whose ardor was carrying them in advance of the regiment on my left, which was charged with the direction of the line. We soon came up with the cavalry skirmishers, relieved them, and actively engaged the enemy's skirmishers. I still advanced my line rapidly, vigorously pressing and driving the enemy's line of skirmishers until they were forced back upon their line of battle. I pushed my line to within easy range of the enemy's line of battle, pouring into them all the time a galling fire. At this juncture I received an order to assemble my command and move to the left to the support of our troops, who were vigorously pressed by the enemy in that quarter. The order to assemble had only been partially executed when the enemy advanced his lines and forced me to suspend the move to the left. About two-thirds of my regiment had assembled and were put in position to receive the enemy. That portion of

the skirmishers on the right who had not yet assembled were directed to advance as rapidly as possible, and keep advancing upon the enemy's lines until they could draw their fire. While the attention of the enemy was directed to my skirmishers that portion of the regiment which had assembled now opened upon the enemy a well-directed fire and with a good effect. Their advance was checked, but their line opened [upon] us a very heavy fire.

In the mean time they were moving a considerable force to our right, which as soon as discovered I endeavored to counteract by moving my skirmishers to the right. Finding my force inadequate, I again turned my attention to the enemy in my front, and reported the fact to the brigadier-general commanding brigade, and asked to be re-enforced; otherwise I would have to fall back. I was notified that the re-enforcement would be sent as soon as the troops could reach the designated point. My men stubbornly held their ground, and not until the enemy had flanked us both right and left was the order given to fall back. Every inch of ground was contested, and my command fell back slowly and in order until we met General Parsons' brigade. Here we were relieved by Major Pindall's battalion of sharpshooters, in consequence of having only a few rounds of ammunition left. The regiment was now assembled, and by order of the brigadier-general commanding brigade directed to move to the position where our line of battle was first formed. After resting awhile and supplying the men with ammunition we were again ordered to the front by the way of the main road. On arriving at the left of our lines I was directed to move my regiment and form it on the left of Brigadier-General Waul's brigade and act with that command. I remained with this command until the close of the battle, when I rejoined my own brigade.

I am proud to say that officers and men of my regiment did their whole duty. They were prompt, cool, and determined, and at no time more so than when opposed to overwhelming numbers with the full knowledge of the fact. To the field and staff of my regiment I am indebted for ready, valuable, and efficient services during the engagement. I desire to make particular mention of David McCullough, sergeant of Company A, who, when my line of skirmishers was ordered to advance as near as possible to the enemy's line, with a view to draw their fire, rushed up to within a few yards of their line, shot down 1 man, captured another, and brought him off under the enemy's fire. The following were the casualties of my regiment: Four men killed, 3 officers wounded, and 19 enlisted men wounded.

Respectfully submitted.

R. G. SHAVER,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. A. TAPPAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 63.

Report of Col. Lucien C. Gause, Thirty-second Arkansas Infantry, commanding brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS GAUSE'S BRIGADE,
Camp near Camden, May 5, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following as the report of the brigade commanded by me in the engagement of the 30th

ultimo at Jenkins' Ferry: At 12 p. m. the night of the 29th ultimo I commenced the march in the direction of Jenkins' Ferry. The night was dark and the road very bad and muddy, so that my progress was necessarily slow, with troops almost exhausted by long and continuous marching. Cheerfully, however, did they move through the mud and rain (which in the morning began to fall) until about 8 a. m. on the 30th, when I was ordered to form line of battle on the crest of the last hill on the road to Jenkins' Ferry, and conforming my movements to those of General Tappan, support him in his advance. I had scarcely formed my brigade when this order was revoked, and by order of General Churchill I moved about a mile down the road toward the ferry and took up position, supporting General Hawthorn's brigade, then engaged. In a short time General Parsons' Missouri division arrived on the field, and was formed with Burns' brigade on my right and Clark's on my left. The whole line then moved to the attack, and had not advanced more than 100 yards until the skirmishers were rallied on the brigade and the engagement became general. Only a few volleys had been fired, when I ordered my brigade to charge, which was done in splendid style. At this moment I saw General Clark's entire brigade give way, and I immediately dispatched a staff officer to General Churchill to inform him of the fact and ask for re-enforcements to support my left. My brigade continued steadily and rapidly to advance, driving the enemy from every position he took, passing over his killed and wounded at every step and leaving a large number of prisoners in my rear. In this manner I drove the enemy nearly a mile, expecting every moment support for my left, or that Colonel Burns, on my right, would rout that wing and thus relieve my flank.

At this time, however, I received information from General Churchill that he had no re-enforcements to send me. General Tappan, who was near me at the time, offered to go to the cavalry and ask for support for me, and I determined to hold my position then until I could hear from him, or as long as I could, and directed Colonel Davie to change the front of his regiment perpendicular to, and protecting as far as possible, my line of battle. This was promptly done, but his regiment was too small to protect me from the heavy fire which the enemy now poured on me from that direction. Burns' brigade, on my right, had given way, and fresh troops were sweeping around my left, and believing it impossible to longer hold my position, I ordered the brigade to fall back. This was done in good order, slowly retiring and returning the enemy's fire at every step for about a quarter of a mile, when, being no longer able to protect myself against the rapid movement of the enemy on my left flank, I was compelled to fall back hastily and in some confusion. This confusion was in a great measure corrected by the gallantry of Brigadier-General Churchill, commanding division, who dismounted, seized a rifle, and rallied the remnant of the brigade around him under a heavy fire. Being unsupported by any other command, it was impossible to resist the attack of the enemy there, and by his order I directed my brigade to fall back to the hill, and sent two staff officers—Captain Carter, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Captain Gause, volunteer aide for that day—to that point, with directions to stop all stragglers and form them in the road near the hospital. In a short time my brigade was reformed and moving again to the attack. Though very much fatigued by more than three hours' continuous fighting, and having exhausted nearly every round of ammunition

(some being entirely without), the troops still were eager to be led to the charge again. Taking up position again almost in the same place as before, we soon engaged the enemy, and after a brief action he retired, leaving us in possession of the field. By direction of General Churchill I sent a company over the field under Major Hathaway, who sent in 17 prisoners and reported the enemy gone. During the entire engagement, lasting over four hours, and in which the troops were under the heaviest and most incessant fire of musketry I ever listened to, all, both officers and men, behaved like veterans.

Too much praise cannot be accorded those men who drove the enemy's center a half mile after all support, both on their right and left, had given way. They deserve the highest commendation for their conduct. When all acted so gallantly it is difficult, if not impossible, to point out particular instances. Colonel Davie, Lieutenant-Colonel Brooks, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hicks, commanding regiments, did their whole duty, urging their men forward in the advance and rallying them when driven back. In this they were faithfully assisted by Major Hathaway, of Davie's regiment; Major Stanley, Yell's regiment, and Captain Anthony, acting lieutenant-colonel, and Captain Montell, acting major, Gause's regiment. Major Stanley and Captain Anthony were both wounded, the latter severely. I am particularly indebted to Lieutenant Smither, volunteer aide, for valuable services on the march from Camden and during the engagement. He was conspicuous for his gallantry, ever ready and prompt to execute orders, and deserves particular mention. I desire also to mention Captain Carter, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenants Ross, assistant adjutant and inspector-general, and Leroy Burrow, acting aide-de-camp, of my staff, for the promptness and energy with which they discharged their several duties. My loss is 16 killed and 67 wounded, as will be seen by reference to report* forwarded herewith. Among the killed are the gallant Captain McIver, Lieutenants Cude, Lasiter, and Ponder, all of whom fell bravely leading the men in the charge. Their loss is sad and an almost irreparable blow to their command. Braver or truer men never fell in any battle. About 2 p. m. I withdrew my brigade from the field and bivouacked on the hill on the Princeton road, and marched thence to this place.

Respectfully submitted.

L. C. GAUSE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. A. H. SEVIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 64.

Report of Lieut. Col. H. G. P. Williams, Nineteenth (Dockery's) Arkansas Infantry, Dockery's brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

CAMP NEAR CAMDEN, ARK., *May* 7, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to your order requiring a report of the action of my command in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry I have the honor to submit the following: I carried into action nearly 400 men,

*Not found.

divided into four small detachments, commanded respectively by Captains Drewry and Etris, Major Southerland, and Lieutenant Gillespie, composing the infantry portion of Brigadier-General Dockery's brigade. Being temporarily detached from your division, I was ordered by General Smith to cross a large creek or bayou, and moved rapidly down it on the left until I engaged the enemy. I had moved about 1,000 yards when my skirmishers engaged those of the enemy, and my line continuing to advance, the engagement soon became general. After a severe contest of about thirty minutes I succeeded in driving him before me until he entirely disappeared in the underbrush. We again advanced slowly and cautiously, with desultory firing, until the engagement again became general, and lasting for about one hour, with very heavy musketry on each side ; but again he was driven back and his fire virtually silenced. At this stage of the battle I was ordered by a staff officer of General Smith to withdraw my forces and recross the creek where I first entered the bottom. I fought with some advantages, my command being in the brush and thick timber, while the heaviest body of the enemy occupied the left corner of an open field across the creek, upon whom my fire was principally directed.

My officers and men who went into the fight behaved gallantly, with very few exceptions, and upon examination of the battle-ground immediately to my front satisfactory evidence was shown that our shots were well directed and very destructive to the enemy. Being again united with my division, I moved into the bottom on the right of the creek and formed in line of battle at the edge of a field and on the extreme left of the division. I had no other general engagement, though much exposed to the fire of sharpshooters, and remained in this position until the enemy withdrew and abandoned the field to our forces.

While all the commanding officers performed their duty well, I cannot refrain from noticing the action of Lieutenant Gillespie, Twelfth Battalion Sharpshooters, commanding detachment, on the field. For activity and daring he was particularly conspicuous, and I would respectfully urge that promotion could not be bestowed upon a more worthy or efficient officer. Captain Franklin, First Battalion Dismounted Cavalry, commanding a company, deserves the highest praise for his conduct. Indeed, all my commanders did well. All honor is due my adjutant, Thomas H. Simms, for his bearing and efficiency on the field, being found at all times where duty called him, regardless of danger. I cannot close this report without offering my thanks to Lieutenant Cunningham, aide-de-camp to General Smith, for the valuable services rendered me. Cool and collected, he rode in front of my line seeking favorable positions and ascertaining the whereabouts of the enemy, urging and encouraging my men to deeds of daring. Indeed, I attribute my success in a great degree to his skill and good judgment, and feel that I was extremely fortunate in having the services of so brave and skillful an officer. My loss was 1 killed, 14 wounded, and 1 missing, a list of which has been previously forwarded you.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. G. P. WILLIAMS,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. Infy., Dockery's Brig.

Lieut. A. H. Sevier,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Churchill's Division.

No. 65.

Report of Brig. Gen. Mosby M. Parsons, C. S. Army, commanding division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HEADQUARTERS PARSONS' DIVISION,
Camp Harris, May 9, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my division in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, on Saline River, Ark., on April 30, 1864: Leaving my bivouac, 6 miles north of Princeton, at 1 a. m. on the 30th, I marched with my division on the road leading to the ferry, along which the Federal army, under Major-General Steele, had retired the evening previous. The night was dark and cloudy, and the roads having been cut up by the enemy's trains after a hard rain the previous evening, rendered the march tedious and fatiguing. Just after daybreak the rain commenced and fell at intervals in heavy showers during the day. After arriving within about 3 miles of the ferry I was ordered to halt my division and rest it in an old field to the left of the road. Fires were being kindled by the troops for the purpose of drying their clothes when sharp volleys of musketry at the front announced that the action had begun. In a few minutes I was ordered to advance with rapidity. Arriving at the point where the road descends from the highlands to the valley of the Saline River, I was ordered to form line of battle, which was done in the following order: The First Brigade, Brig. Gen. John B. Clark commanding, on the right, fronting the ferry, his line deployed so as to penetrate a swamp on the right; the Second Brigade, Colonel Burns commanding, on the left, extending across the main road; Lesueur's and Ruffner's batteries on the front and center. It was now 8 a. m. To the front lay the valley extending to the ferry, 2 miles distant. To the front of the Second Brigade, and about 100 yards distant, was a plowed field about a quarter of a mile square, which was flanked on the south and east by heavy timber. Still farther to the front and about a quarter of a mile was another field of about the same dimensions as the first, an intervening strip of woods separating the two. This field, as the first, was bounded on the south and east all the way to the river by heavy woods and wet marshes. The main road to the ferry ran along the north side of the fields above described, and immediately to the north of and parallel to the road ran a creek or bayou with deep, impassable banks, which were covered on the north side with thick cane and underbrush. This creek emptied into the river at the ferry. Before and while in my first line of battle the Arkansas division, Brigadier-General Churchill commanding, was seriously engaged in the second field and the woods surrounding it.

About 10 o'clock the enemy was pressing him heavily. I received orders to advance my command with all haste to his support. Moving down the main road until arriving at a strip of woods between the fields, I met with Major-General Price, who directed me to take position on General Churchill's right and to advance immediately upon the enemy. While moving through the strip of woods and passing immediately in rear of General Churchill's command I met the general himself, who stated that unless I could give him support on his center or his left he would be compelled to retire in a few minutes. I ordered General Clark to report immediately to General Churchill and take such position as he might direct. With the Sec-

ond Brigade I moved rapidly to the right until the left came in rear of some skirmishers of Churchill's division. The Second Brigade then fronted, formed line of battle, and advanced steadily. The enemy's line was almost instantly encountered, their skirmishers firing and hastily falling back. The struggle here for awhile was stubborn and terrific. The Second Brigade, never faltering, still continued to advance with admirable firmness, pouring in the hostile ranks volley after volley with deadly precision. The enemy were rapidly driven for a quarter of a mile, when a heavy re-enforcement made a desperate assault on the right wing, which caused it to halt and hesitate.

In the mean time the enemy rallied and returned to attack on the left and center of this brigade. Then I was informed that the right wing was charged by cavalry. This I could not believe, for the timber and the swamp in which we were engaged would not admit of such an attack. I went in that direction to satisfy myself, and found it to be the attack on the right by the enemy's infantry, as above stated. While the above was transpiring on the right, our forces on the left fell back. The Second Brigade then was retiring slowly, when I received an order from Major-General Price to withdraw my division and take position on my first line, to which place I directed the stragglers while the division was thus retiring. Orders were received to form in the valley below, and advance again to the support of General Waul, who was about to attack on the same line where General Churchill had been engaged. Advancing again in line of battle, General Clark's brigade on the right, when I arrived on the right of General Waul I notified him of my position, and our respective commands advanced. General Waul was soon engaged. I continued to advance for half a mile through the swamps and thick woods without finding the enemy, and the firing continuing very heavy to the left and rear of my left flank, I drew back my command in that direction, and ordered Colonel Burns to attack the enemy's left flank with two of his regiments. The Sixteenth Missouri (Lieutenant-Colonel Cumming) and the Eleventh Missouri (Lieutenant-Colonel Murray) with great promptness executed the maneuver, which was discovered by the enemy, who immediately ceased to contest the field and made a rapid retreat. The battle having thus ended, and after waiting for Major-General Walker to retire his troops by the rear of my line, by order my division was marched back to the highlands to bivouac for the night. My casualties are 28 killed, 124 wounded, and 6 missing. Among the killed was Lieut. Col. Simon Harris, of the Tenth Missouri, who fell while gallantly cheering on his regiment. In his fall the country has lost a brave and accomplished officer. Brig. Gen. John B. Clark was wounded in the arm while leading his brigade with his accustomed skill and daring. Colonel Burns, commanding the Second Brigade, is entitled to an honorable mention by me for the good judgment, coolness, and courage with which he handled his brigade.

Officers and men all are entitled to the thanks and admiration of their country for their patient endurance and energy in their pursuit, and for their firmness and valor in the battle which routed the enemy at Jenkins' Ferry. Officers of my staff—Major Maclean, Captain Kelly, and Captain Edwards—were with me on the field. Their energy, courage, and experience greatly contributed to the success of the day.

Captains Lesueur and Ruffner's batteries having been detached

from my command before going into action, and the part taken by them in it not coming under my observation, I respectfully submit herewith their official reports, marked A and B; also, for details, copies of the official reports of Brigadier-General Clark and Colonel Burns, commanding Second Brigade, marked C and D.

Very respectfully,

M. M. PARSONS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Arkansas.

No. 66.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Clark, jr., commanding First Brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, PARSONS' DIVISION,
Camp Harris, May 9, 1864.

MAJOR: After halting for an hour near the scene of the engagement of Saline River on the 30th, I was ordered to move my brigade forward in quick time in the direction of the firing, which had become very frequent and heavy. I formed my command in line of battle on the right of Burns' brigade on the high ground, immediately before descending into the low grounds, where the battle was fought. In a short time I was ordered to move my command by the right flank in quick time down the road leading to the ferry on Saline River, which was done with great spirit and promptness by officers and men. Arriving in rear of Brigadier-General Churchill's command, I was detached from the division and ordered to remain as a reserve in conjunction with Gause's brigade, Churchill's division. Gause's brigade being ordered in a short time to advance, I applied to Major-General Price to make some disposition of my command. He gave me the order to advance immediately on the left of Gause's brigade directly to the front. The enemy in my front were beyond an open field, concealed behind logs and underbrush, silently awaiting the attack from our force. Notwithstanding my front was perfectly naked of any protection for my command in its advance upon the enemy, and the whole face of the open ground swept by heavy front and flank fires from the enemy's lines, my command with a right-shoulder-shift moved off with the steadiness of veterans. Discovering, after having gone two-thirds of the way through the fields, that our line on my right had halted, and from a regiment of the enemy beyond the bayou on which my left rested [*sic*], I halted the command with the order to fire, believing that a farther advance would be attended with too great danger. My command remained in this position some thirty minutes, pouring a steady and regular fire into the enemy's ranks, and receiving all the time the fire of at least twice our numbers.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the coolness and indomitable pluck of my little command on this occasion. Finding that the line on my right was falling back, I ordered my command to retire to the wood immediately in the rear and reform, which was done in good order and without trepidation. Reporting with my command,

I was formed on the right of Burns' brigade, and under the immediate command of the brigadier-general commanding division advanced in a new direction against the enemy. The enemy, however, having in the mean time taken flight across the river, my command did not engage him again. I returned with the division to a camp about 1 mile from the battle-field. The number of muskets in the engagement was very small; in fact, but little over one-half the effective force, consequent upon the heavy marches we had made to overtake the fleeing enemy. I carried into the engagement about 380 men; out of that number having 18 killed, 74 wounded, and 6 missing.

The Eighth Regiment, commanded by Col. Charles S. Mitchell, Lieut. Col. J. W. Smizer, Maj. J. W. Hill, and the Ninth Regiment, commanded by Col. R. H. Musser, Lieut. Col. Richard Gaines, Maj. H. H. Hughes, and Ruffner's battery of four guns, composed my command.

Feeling that it would be invidious to make any distinction between the commanding officers of regiments, assisted by their other field officers, in valor, skill, and efficiency on the field, I will say that they did everything that could be expected from them. Considering the well-earned laurels they have gathered upon other battle-fields, I think I pay them the greatest compliment when I say they sustained that reputation. Lieutenant-Colonel Smizer, of the Eighth Missouri Infantry, was wounded while gallantly discharging his duty.

Captain Ruffner's battery was left on the hill when we first formed to await my orders. Receiving an order from one of General Smith's staff to send a section of his battery to the front, he sent Lieutenant Lockhart with a section, which was, unfortunately, captured by the enemy. Having no knowledge of the circumstances and the order of putting him in action, I attach his report for your consideration.

My staff discharged their duty, Lieutenant Von Phul, aide-de-camp, receiving a wound in the arm and chest, Lieutenant Waldo having his horse severely wounded.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. B. CLARK, Jr.,
Brigadier-General.

Major Maclean,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 67.

Report of Lieut. John O. Lockhart, Ruffner's Missouri Battery, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

Headquarters Ruffner's Battery,
Camp Harris, Ark., May 9, 1864.

Captain: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the part taken by one section of Ruffner's battery under my command in the engagement with the enemy at Jenkins' Ferry on April 30, 1864: As the brigade was advancing upon the enemy the battery, which was in its rear, was detained by meeting Captain Lesueur's battery, which was coming off the field. While in this position we received an order to follow Captain Lesueur's battery, and while in the act of executing that order we received another for a lieutenant

to proceed with one section to the scene of action. These delays threw the section some distance in the rear, and upon following the road upon which I last saw the brigade advancing I saw smoke from a line in front, and supposing it to be our own line, sought to reach it. A terrific fire from three regiments of Federal infantry told me that we had advanced upon the enemy. The guns were immediately prepared for action by the men, who behaved with much gallantry; but as the line of the enemy was so extensive he advanced with little difficulty, capturing the guns, myself, and 8 others, 3 of whom were killed by negroes after they had surrendered. After the capture I was taken across the Saline River to the Federal hospital, from which I made my escape on May 2. There were 32 men in the action, and the loss is as follows: Killed, 4; wounded, 6; captured, 6; missing, 1.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. O. LOCKHART,
Lieutenant, Ruffner's Battery.

Capt. T. T. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 68.

Report of Col. Simon P. Burns, Eleventh Missouri Infantry, commanding Second Brigade, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG. MISSOURI INFY., PARSONS' DIV.,
Camp Harris, Ark., May 7, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I avail myself of the earliest opportunity that has presented since the arrival of the brigade train, containing my books, papers, and writing material, to submit my official report of the part taken by the Second Brigade Missouri Infantry in the ever-memorable engagement of April 30, 1864, known as the battle of Jenkins' Ferry:

About 7 o'clock on the morning of the 30th ultimo I arrived with the brigade within 2 miles of the battle-ground, where I was directed to halt in a field to the left of the road and rest the men, who were greatly fatigued, having been constantly marched in the rain since 1 a. m. Scarcely had the arms been stacked and fires kindled when a sharp fire of musketry in front announced the presence of the enemy, with whom our cavalry were then engaged. I received an immediate order from the brigadier-general commanding division to move the brigade to the front by the Jenkins' Ferry road with all possible dispatch. Upon arriving at the point in the road where it descends from the hills into the Saline River bottom, I was ordered to place the brigade in position in the line of battle on the left of Brigadier-General Clark's brigade, occupying the high ground on both sides of the road bordering the river bottom. This order had just been obeyed when a tremendous roar of small-arms half a mile to the front rendered it apparent that Churchill's division of Arkansas infantry, which had moved in the advance and had already decended into the bottom, was hotly engaged with the enemy. I was immediately ordered forward with the brigade, moving by the right flank along the road leading to the ferry.

Arriving at the position on the road taken up by Major-General Price, I was directed by that officer in person to file to the right and move in the direction parallel to and in rear of General Churchill's line of battle. Moving in this direction for some distance the right of Churchill's division was reached, when I received an order from the brigadier-general commanding division to form the brigade in line of battle on Churchill's right, with directions, however, to allow the left regiment (Sixteenth Missouri) of my brigade to cover or lap onto the right regiment of the Arkansas division, which was then being heavily pressed by the enemy. Skirmishers from the Arkansas division being already deployed in my front, I directed Major Pindall to place his battalion of sharpshooters in line of battle on the right of the brigade, and move with it as infantry of the line. These orders were promptly obeyed, the troops moving with alacrity and spirit whenever called upon. My brigade now occupied the extreme right of our line of battle, General Clark's brigade having been detained on the left. Everything now being in readiness for action, I received and delivered the order to advance at quick time upon the enemy. We had moved forward but a short distance when we encountered a strong line of the enemy's skirmishers, who were speedily driven into their body, who opened upon us a terrific fire of musketry, which was promptly responded to from my line. The engagement now became general along our whole front. My men continued to advance, driving the enemy before them for more than a quarter of a mile, inflicting upon him serious loss.

We had now been engaged for more than an hour, advancing all the while, when suddenly the right of Churchill's division gave way, and in falling back became entangled with my left, throwing it into some confusion. This, however, was soon remedied and the men speedily rallied. At this juncture I received an order from the brigadier-general commanding division to fall back to an open field some half a mile to the rear, in order to make room for Walker's division of Texas infantry, which had just arrived upon the ground. It seems that the enemy occupied such a position that we could only engage him with one division of our forces at a time. In obedience to this order the brigade retired slowly in line of battle, fighting the enemy as we withdrew. He did not dare to pursue more than 150 yards.

Having retired to the field indicated and rested in line of battle for some ten minutes, I was again ordered to move forward and support General Walker's right, then fiercely engaged, General Clark's brigade having in the mean time been formed on my right. The whole division moved forward at quick time for about half a mile, when my left joined the right of Walker's division, which was slowly falling back, followed by the enemy. I was here directed by the brigadier-general commanding division to detach two of my regiments and flank the enemy on the left. I immediately ordered the Sixteenth Missouri, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Cumming, and the Eleventh Missouri, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Murray (the two left regiments of the brigade), to change front forward on the tenth company and occupy a position in front of and at right angles with the right of Walker's division. This movement was promptly executed by the commanders of these two regiments. Here was the turning point of the battle. The enemy perceiving himself flanked on his left immediately ceased firing and retired from the field in great disorder. After remaining on the field for

more than an hour after the battle ceased I was ordered about 1 p. m. to withdraw the brigade to the high ground at the edge of the river bottom, which was accordingly done, and we encamped for the night.

I desire to call the attention of the brigadier-general commanding to the heroic fortitude and indomitable courage exhibited by the men and officers under my command. Although we had marched a distance of nearly 50 miles in less than two days, furnished with but a scant supply of provisions, and almost entirely without blankets or other protection from the rain and dampness, the alacrity and cheerfulness with which they obeyed orders and responded to every call made upon them throughout that trying march and subsequent battle vindicated the high reputation they have always borne as patriots and soldiers.

It is difficult to conceive of ground more unfavorable on which to fight a battle than that in the vicinity of Jenkins' Ferry. The battle-field was a low swamp in the Saline River bottom, which was rendered almost impassable by the rains which had previously fallen and the bayous and lagoons which intersect it in every direction. It was over this marshy ground that my men marched and fought for nearly six hours. Their exhaustion and fatigue at the close of the action can better be imagined than portrayed.

I beg to make favorable mention of Col. William M. Moore, commanding Tenth Missouri Infantry. This gallant officer was severely wounded near the close of the action while at his post encouraging his men, and refused to quit the field until ordered by me to do so. Lieut. Col. Simon Harris, of the same regiment, was instantly killed while bravely [engaged] in the discharge of his duty. The army has not been called to mourn the loss of a more gallant or efficient officer nor the country a more disinterested patriot and citizen than Simon Harris. Endeared to all who knew him, his memory is enshrined in the hearts of his comrades in arms. His loss to the country is irreparable. Major Magoffin efficiently commanded the regiment after the command devolved upon him. Lieut. Cols. P. W. H. Cumming and Thomas H. Murray, commanding, respectively, the Sixteenth and Eleventh Missouri Regiments of infantry, deserve the highest praise for their gallant bearing on the field and the ability which they displayed in handling their commands in action. Maj. L. A. Pindall, commanding battalion of sharpshooters, was conspicuous for coolness and courage. The ability which he displayed in the management of his command during the action marks him an officer of the highest merit. The battalion of sharpshooters deserve especial merit for the sturdy and unwavering courage displayed by them on the battle-field. Capt. A. A. Lesueur, commanding Missouri Light Battery, belonging to this brigade, was detached from my command at the beginning of the engagement and ordered to report to Brigadier-General Marmaduke, commanding cavalry. He rendered efficient service with his battery on another portion of the field. I desire to return my thanks to Lieut. Samuel M. Morrison, acting assistant adjutant-general of the brigade, and Lieut. H. Buford Armistead, my aide-de-camp. The zeal and intelligence which they exhibited in carrying and delivering my orders, and their gallant bearing in the face of the enemy, renders honorable mention of them but an act of justice. My entire loss in the engagement was 10 killed and 50 wounded, a list* of which is here-

* Not found.

with forwarded. It would undoubtedly have been much greater but for the thickness and size of the timber where we fought, as I never witnessed heavier musketry in my life.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. P. BURNS,
Col., Comdg. Second Missouri Brig., Parsons' Division.

Capt. AUSTIN M. STANDISH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Parsons' Division.

No. 69.

Report of Capt. A. A. Lesueur, Missouri Battery, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

CAMP HARRIS, ARK., *May* 7, 1864.

I herewith report the part my battery took in the engagement of April 30, 1864, at Jenkins' Ferry: On arriving, at 8 a. m., near the battle-field I was ordered by a staff officer to report to General Marmaduke, who was on the left of General Churchill's division. General Marmaduke ordered me into position in a field on the right of the road leading to Jenkins' Ferry. Owing to the heavy rains the ground was very miry, and it was with much difficulty that my pieces were placed in battery. As soon as my guns were in battery I opened fire with my two 6-pounders, my howitzers being so much sunk in the mud as to prevent their use. After firing some 15 rounds the infantry support on my right gave way, and on my reporting the fact to General Marmaduke he ordered me to withdraw my battery and to take position on a hill some half a mile in rear of my then position. I remained in that position until the engagement was over, when I rejoined my brigade in camp. My loss in the engagement was 1 man slightly wounded and 5 horses killed and disabled.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

A. A. LESUEUR,
Capt., Comdg. Missouri Light Battery, Second Brigade.

Lieutenant MORRISON,
A. A. A. G., Second Brig. Missouri Infy., Parsons' Div.

No. 70.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas N. Waul, C. S. Army, commanding brigade, Walker's division, of engagement at Jenkins' Ferry.

CAMDEN, ARK., *May* 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the action taken by the brigade under my command at the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, on the Saline, Ark., on Saturday, April 30, 1864: We left our bivouac at 2.30 a. m., 22 miles from the ferry, and marched at a rapid step, through incessant and heavy showers of rain, the roads covered with mud and water, until 10.30 a. m., when we reached the field of contest. By order of the lieutenant-general commanding the department this

brigade was placed in reserve and formed in line of battle about half a mile from the scene of an engagement then progressing between the enemy's forces and the Missouri and Arkansas troops under command of Major-General Price. By order of the lieutenant-general commanding the brigade was immediately marched toward the enemy, meeting in its advance General Price and command, who had withdrawn from the field. Throwing forward a battalion of skirmishers into a skirt of timber fronting the enemy's position, I discovered his skirmishers rapidly advancing, driving in the rear guard of our retiring troops, and the enemy moving in line of battle across a field that intervened between the timber and his breastworks. After a brisk fire between my skirmishers and the enemy's they were driven in upon their main line, which rapidly fell back to cover in the timber behind logs, rails, and other temporary defenses. The position of the enemy, so far as I could learn from information obtained on the field and personal observation, was this: Their principal line, concealed and protected by fallen timber and other hastily constructed defenses and the banks of a slough, commanded the only direct approach through an open field in front. They had also a strong force nearly at right angles with the right of their main line, in position under the high banks of a deep bayou that skirts the Jenkins' Ferry road, directly on the edge of the field and commanding the left flank, and enfilading any force that might enter the field in front of the main line. The enemy's left extended a considerable distance beyond the field, forming an obtuse angle, inclining toward our right and commanding a large portion of the field.

The brigade advanced under a continuous and destructive fire to the center of the field, when it was opened upon by incessant volleys from the force posted on their left flank, sweeping along and enfilading the right half of the brigade. At the same time a cross-fire from the enemy's left, then advancing, threatened to envelop us in a sheet of flame. The brigade maintained its position gallantly, returning the enemy's fire and effectively checking the advance of his left. In a few minutes the increased and rapid discharge of small-arms satisfied me that the other two brigades of Walker's division were approaching and warmly engaging the enemy's left, then the critical and dangerous point for our forces. Forming upon my right in the woods we immediately prepared to charge along the whole line. In a very short time, and before the command could be extended, Generals Scurry and Randal fell mortally wounded and were borne from the field. The time consumed and confusion incident upon a change of commanders prevented the immediate execution of the charge. My brigade still occupied the center of the field and was advancing, when in riding from the left to the right I found the right falling back under orders. In obeying the order the brigade moved with deliberation and in good order, halting at the edge of the field, so as to command it and protect any wounded that might have accidentally been left, and prevent their mutilation and murder, which the barbarity of the enemy had inflicted on some who had been left on the field in the conflict before our arrival.

Upon search being made, and learning that all of our wounded were removed, we retained our position, so as to command the field. The rest of the day the brigade was under the immediate supervision and direction of the lieutenant-general commanding, who by his presence and exposure animated and encouraged the troops until the

retreat of the enemy. About 4 p. m., the enemy having retired and the contest closed, being much weakened from loss of blood, I withdrew from the field.

When we consider the heavy marching and exposure of the men to the rain and mud for days preceding the fight, the rapidity of the day's march, and the disadvantage of a position that seemed without remedy, their conduct was worthy of all praise.

The serious loss in officers and men, the fall of the gallant and daring Scurry and Randal, the only general officers from Texas, save myself, on the field, fully sustain the well-earned reputation of the troops from that State. I would specially commend the conduct of Col. Overton Young, commanding the Eighth [Twelfth] Regiment Texas Infantry; as at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, he behaved courageously and coolly, managing his regiment with great skill and exhibiting much fitness for command. Severely wounded, his loss would be a great one to the service should he be unable to again take the field. I earnestly recommend him for promotion. Colonel Watson, a brave and excellent officer, commanding the Eighteenth Regiment Texas Infantry, was killed while gallantly leading his men. It is with great satisfaction that I acknowledge my indebtedness to Col. Washington L. Crawford, of Texas, on the staff of Major-General Price, who after his command had been withdrawn tendered me his services. He proved himself a cool, daring, active, and efficient officer by promptly extending my orders and watching and penetrating the designs of the enemy. Surg. Edward Randall, brigade surgeon, a most skillful, attentive, and active officer, was severely wounded in the commencement of the action. Capt. Adolph King, assistant adjutant-general, and Capt. Robert Brodnax, aide-de-camp, performed their several duties with their usual zeal and ability—the highest encomium they can receive. Indeed, the conduct of officers and men fully sustained the character their former behavior won for them, with the additional advantages that experience has brought of being calm, cool, and collected, the officers devoting themselves to the all-important duty of holding their men in hand and subject to control.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. N. WAUL,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. W. A. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Walker's Division.

No. 71.

Reports of Brig. Gen. John S. Marmaduke, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION,
In the Field, April 21, 1864.

COLONEL: On the 17th instant I received information from Col. Colton Greene, commanding brigade, on outpost, saying that a Federal train of some 200 wagons, guarded by one regiment of cavalry, two regiments of negro infantry, and two pieces of artillery, had left Camden, taking the Washington road (old military road), presumed to be after forage. I immediately wrote General Fagan, requesting

him to furnish me Cabell's brigade, which with my troops (500 men of Marmaduke's brigade) marched at sunset to attack their force and train. After proceeding some 2 miles I learned that the guard had been re-enforced by one regiment of cavalry, a battalion of white infantry, and two pieces of artillery. Deeming my force too small to succeed, I ordered the troops back to camp and wrote to General Price, stating that 200 Federal wagons, with a guard of some 2,500 men, with five pieces of artillery, were en route on the road above mentioned to obtain forage, and would encamp that night some 16 miles from Camden, and could be intercepted and destroyed by concentrating all his available force on the same road some 14 miles from Camden by 8 a. m. the next day. The order was given.

At sunrise my command (500 men and Harris' battery of four small pieces of artillery under Colonel Greene, 300 men under Colonel Crawford, and about 1,200 men and Hughey's battery of four field pieces under Brigadier-General Cabell) marched for the point indicated. In nearing this place my scouts reported the enemy in front and returning to Camden. Finding that the enemy's advance had occupied an important position on the road at Poison Spring, I ordered my escort to press forward and drive them from the hill, which was handsomely done. Crawford's troops were promptly brought forward to hold the hill, while Generel Cabell was ordered to dismount his brigade and bring it forward, with his artillery, to the position occupied by Crawford. Crawford's troops were dismounted and put in position, except a battalion under Major McMurtrey, which was ordered to my extreme right to guard and watch the enemy's movements in that direction. These dispositions were promptly made. At this juncture Brigadier-General Maxey arrived with his division (a Texas and Indian brigade, some 1,200 or 1,500 men, with a Texas battery of four small pieces of artillery). As General Maxey was my senior in rank I reported to him for orders. He replied that as I had put on foot the expedition and knew the position of affairs I would make the disposition of the troops and the fight. I then suggested that his whole force be dismounted and placed on the left, his division forming a line nearly at a right angle with my line, which was perpendicular to and across the main road to Camden. Maxey's division was put in position accordingly, his Texas brigade on his right with his battery of artillery. Major Wood with his battalion (about 300 men, General Price's escort) soon came up. I ordered it to be dismounted and put in line on my extreme infantry right. Colonel Greene soon reported his command near at hand. I ordered it to remain mounted about 1 mile to the rear while the whole force was getting into position.

My plan of battle was for Maxey's division to move forward (his extreme left moving up rapidly) to engage and turn the enemy's right flank, and when this force was warmly engaged to open rapidly with the artillery in front, Harris' battery, Greene's brigade, having been brought up, eight pieces, and under the cover of this fire to charge the enemy's line in front. As soon as Maxey's troops were put in motion I ordered up Greene's command dismounted as a close support for Cabell's left or Maxey's right. This plan of battle was accordingly executed. In fifteen minutes after the whole force was put in motion the enemy was routed, making but slight resistance afterward. The conduct of both officers and men was admirable. Without bayonets, many of them badly armed, most of them indifferently drilled, they charged in splendid style through an open field

some 600 yards, and drove the enemy from their own (and a strong) position. I ordered Major Wood with his battalion (dismounted) and Major McMurtrey (mounted) to hold their position as a protection to my right in case the enemy should attempt to turn it, and also as a reserve in case I should be repulsed. In a few moments, however, I saw that there was no danger of a repulse or a flank attack, and accordingly ordered Wood's battalion and two pieces of artillery forward, all fresh troops, to complete the victory and capture the enemy, now badly whipped and scattered. General Maxey, however, fearing an attack from the rear or the loss of the train, countermanded my orders to Wood and put his men to getting off the train; likewise gave me orders to withdraw and collect the troops, who, though much scattered and tired, were pursuing the enemy.

I am unable to give an entirely correct report of the killed and wounded in my command, as Brigadier-General Cabell and Colonel Crawford were ordered to make their reports direct to General Maxey. I inclose Colonel Greene's report. The whole Confederate loss will not much exceed 20 killed and 60 wounded. Federal loss about 400 negroes killed, some 60 white killed, and about 125 prisoners; captured, 4 pieces of artillery and 4 caissons, and about 200 wagons (6 mules each) and ambulances. The prompt and resolute spirit of Brigadier-General Cabell did much toward giving us the cheap and quick victory. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, commanding Greene's regiment, deserves special mention. Though painfully wounded, he did not quit his regiment until the engagement was over. Major Ewing, Captain Price, Captain Moore, Surgeon Smith, Captain Haymakeur, and Lieutenant Wright, of my staff, who were with me during the fight, rendered valuable services in bearing orders and directing the troops during the engagement.

Very respectfully,

J. S. MARMADUKE,
Brigadier-General.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas
(Through Brigadier-General Maxey, Prov. Army, C. S.).

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HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION,
May 17, 1864.

COLONEL: Marmaduke's brigade, of my division, was alone engaged in the battle at Jenkins' Ferry; Shelby's brigade was absent and General Fagan's also. I inclose herewith Col. Colton Greene's report. He commanded the brigade, and I take pleasure in saying that on that day he distinguished himself for coolness, skill, and courage. I desire also to return thanks to my staff, who were generally in the thickest of the fight and wherever duty called them. I have already forwarded the names of those who specially distinguished themselves, and who, I think, are most deserving of notice and promotion.

Very respectfully,

J. S. MARMADUKE,
Major-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION,
In the Field, May 28, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders from the major-general commanding I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my command during the campaign against the Federal forces under Major-General Steele, which was ended on the 30th ultimo by their retreat across the Saline and to Little Rock: At the time information was received of the advance of Steele's army from Little Rock on the military road southward, and of his arrival at Benton, my division, consisting of Cabell's Arkansas cavalry brigade and Shelby's and Greene's (Marmaduke's) Missouri cavalry brigades, numbering about 3,200 effectively armed and mounted men for duty, was stationed as follows: Cabell's brigade 16 miles west of Washington, Shelby's and Greene's brigades at Camden.

On March 22, Cabell's brigade was ordered to march to Tate's Bluff, 23 miles northwest of Camden and at the junction of the Little Missouri with the Ouachita River.

About March 25, Shelby's brigade marched. It was ordered to Princeton, but there being no forage there, went some 15 miles northeast of Princeton (47 miles northeast of Camden), and on March 28, with Greene's brigade and a section of Blocher's battery, of Fagan's brigade, under Lieutenant Zimmerman, I marched directly to Tate's Bluff. The several brigades could thus co-operate against the enemy's front, or Cabell's and Greene's against his front, while Shelby was in position to march directly to and operate upon his rear. Arrived at Tate's Bluff, and finding no forage or subsistence in its vicinity, and ascertaining that the enemy, 9,500 strong (infantry, cavalry, and artillery), had reached Rockport and were marching upon Arkadelphia, on March 30, Shelby's brigade was ordered to cross the Ouachita River and move upon the enemy's rear, Cabell's brigade (which, in view of the probability of the enemy advancing direct upon Washington and the dearth of forage, &c., at Tate's Bluff, had been ordered to halt 15 miles southwest of that point) to cross the Little Missouri River by the military road and resist him in front, while Greene's brigade (the middle column) would cross Little Missouri at Tate's Bluff, attack his left flank, and as he advanced southward from Arkadelphia co-operate with Cabell, each command to make short and desperate attacks, retire and attack again until the enemy reached the Little Missouri River, when all would concentrate to prevent his passage of that stream. Before the several brigades could cross the rivers and get into position, although harassed greatly by various detachments from mine and other commands attacking him in flank and front, the enemy had entered Arkadelphia.

On April 1, Steele with his whole force marched out of Arkadelphia, directing his march on the military road toward Washington. Late on the evening of the 1st, the scouts in advance of Shelby's brigade had entered Arkadelphia, capturing a dozen stragglers, including one captain, and closed up to the enemy's rear, but the main body of the brigade, exhausted as it was, and avoiding his flankers for the sake of secrecy, had not arrived. Cabell had, however, moved up to the Antoine, 18 miles southwest of Arkadelphia, and his advance, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Fayth, struck the advance of the enemy, consisting of two regiments of cavalry, near Spoonville, 10 miles southwest of Arkadelphia. Here several sharp fights occurred, in which the enemy suffered considerable loss and were driven back upon the main body. Greene, on the enemy's

left, had attacked and driven in with loss his flankers to the main body. On the night of the 1st, Steele encamped near Spoonville, having marched only 10 miles. Shelby encamped that night near Arkadelphia, Cabell on the Antoine. Greene was at nightfall about 8 miles east of Spoonville. The design of the enemy was evidently to co-operate with Banks against Shreveport, his shortest route to Shreveport by way of Washington. The crossing over Little Missouri River on the military road was a good one and entirely untenable for checking his advance seriously. The latest information of my scouts (I was then with Greene's column) on the 1st was that Steele had certainly advanced as far as Spoonville on the direct Washington road. These facts taken into consideration, I ordered Colonel Greene to leave Lawther's regiment, of his brigade, on the enemy's left flank, and marching that night to join Cabell at Cottingham's Store, 14 miles north of Washington and 3 south of Little Missouri River, on the military road. Before daylight on the morning of the 2d, I joined General Cabell at Antoine.

At Spoonville a good road makes off from the military road by way of Okolona to Elkin's Ferry, and by roads leading from it to any of the ferries or fords on Little Missouri River. Fearing Steele might take this road and reach and occupy one of the fords below the military road crossing, on the morning of April 2, after leaving Monroe's regiment, Fayth's battalion, and a section of Hughey's battery, of Cabell's brigade, commanded by Colonel Monroe, at the Antoine as a rear guard, I withdrew the balance of that brigade to Cottingham's Store, where it could either re-enforce Monroe when driven back to the river or resist the occupation by the enemy of any of the fords below the military road crossing.

No change appeared in the direction of the enemy's march on the 2d. His supposed advance came up with Colonel Monroe's rear guard at the Antoine and were driven back with loss, Monroe, according to instructions, falling back slowly. At Wolf Creek he again halted and took position. The enemy came up, and this time Monroe, by his excellent dispositions, the well-directed fire of the small-arms of his command and of the section of Hughey's battery, drove him in wild disorder back to the main body with a loss of 25 or more in killed and wounded. At 2 p. m. the march of the enemy was partially developed; he had taken the road leading off by way of Okolona. Simultaneously almost with this information the small picket which had been stationed at Elkin's Ferry galloped up to inform me that the enemy had occupied that ferry with a small force. About 4 o'clock Greene arrived, having marched, when he heard the firing between Monroe and the enemy, in a northwesterly direction, to the assistance of Cabell (as he then thought), but finding that the enemy were in strong force, and would, in his then position, overpower him, retired to Cottingham's Store. By this time the enemy had occupied Elkin's Ferry with a strong force and posted artillery to sweep any line attempting to drive them from it, while their whole force was in supporting distance.

In the meanwhile Shelby had encountered the rear guard of the enemy, consisting of a brigade of infantry, regiment of cavalry, and battery; had, with the gallantry and dash which ever accompanies him and his brigade, charged in line of battle, mounted, charged and charged again until the sun went down, and driven it to seek safety with the main body, now encamped 12 miles from the scene of his first attack. Shelby then encamped.

In this day's fight, among the foremost in the pursuit fell mortally wounded Second Lieutenant Trigg, of my escort, who was sent by me to General Shelby with dispatches, and having accomplished that duty, the fight coming on, joined the advance, and there fought with a valor worthy the emulation of the bravest. Captain Thorp, of Elliott's battalion (the advance), charged with his men through a Federal regiment of infantry, scattering them to the four winds. He received a severe, though not mortal, wound in that charge.

Placing a sufficient force at Elkin's Ferry to hold any farther advance in check until it could be re-enforced, my wearied troops (Cabell's and Greene's) were encamped so as to be enabled to reach in time any one of the fords liable yet to be crossed at by the main Federal army.

April 3 was spent by the enemy in closing up to the river with his main force. His point of crossing was not yet ascertained, and Burbridge's regiment, of Greene's brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, was thrown forward to make a forced reconnaissance at Elkin's Ferry. Late in the day, after having driven in the advanced posts on the south side of the river with sharp skirmishing, the enemy were discovered in heavy masses; yet during that day his main body still remained on the north bank. His slow, changeful marches, his seeming indecision, were inexplicable until Shelby's cannon were heard in his rear. On the morning of the 3d, he had again attacked; had scattered their rear guard, when, finding that they were being heavily re-enforced and closing their flanks around his comparatively small force, he withdrew in good order. General Shelby fought his brigade entirely mounted, and time and again the irresistible charge of his line thoroughly demoralized and completely routed the long and serried lines of the enemy's infantry, causing them great loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, while Collins' battery did most effective service and almost exceeded its usual superlative excellence in the accuracy of the fire and the devoted bravery of the company. On the 4th (as afterward appeared), Steele commenced crossing his main army. Having concentrated Greene and Cabell in front of the ferry, and posted the main portion of Cabell's brigade as a reserve on a naturally strong position at the edge of the bottom, with Greene's brigade, Colonel Greene commanding; one piece of Blocher's battery, under Lieutenant Zimmerman; Monroe's regiment, Col. J. C. Monroe commanding, and a section of Hughey's battery, under Lieutenant Miller, of Cabell's brigade, 1,200 in all, I advanced and attacked the enemy with the objects in view of finally determining whether he would cross his whole force here, of relieving Shelby (whom I knew to be nearly out of ammunition), and to impede their crossing. The troops were rapidly formed, and the attack vigorously and quickly made, which resulted in our driving them 2 miles before they could mass their forces against me, and then withdrew in perfect order, with a loss of 29 killed, wounded, and missing, including Lieutenant Fackler, of my staff, captured. From their own official reports, captured afterward, I fought a greatly superior force and killed and wounded a considerable number.

I cannot pay too high a tribute to the alacrity, the steadiness, and persistent bravery of Greene's brigade and Monroe's regiment, nor compliment Lieutenants Zimmerman and Miller's artillery commands higher than in the enemy's own language, who complained that our artillerists must have measured the ground before the bat-

tle. On this day I did not see a straggler, while all seemed to feel that we had but to march on to win, and all fought as bravely as the bravest. The enemy's design of crossing here was fully determined. Shelby was enabled to join me on the evening of that day without molestation, and again my whole force was together. On the morning of the 5th, there being no forage in the vicinity of the ferry, I was compelled to withdraw my main force to the south side of Prairie D'Ane, on the Washington road, about 16 miles from the ferry. Here I had breast-works of logs and small dirt-works thrown up with which to deceive the enemy into the belief that I would give them battle here. My outpost (Greene's regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell) skirmished sharply with them, and again on the 6th. On that day I was re-enforced by Gano's command of 400, and Colonel Lawther, after various successful skirmishes with the enemy, rejoined his brigade. On the 7th, the enemy continued to advance slowly, skirmishing all the time with my advance, under Captain Porter, of Burbridge's regiment. General Price now arrived with Dockery's and Crawford's brigades and Wood's battalion and took command. Cabell's brigade was transferred to Fagan's division. On the 8th, the enemy again advanced, driving Captain Porter, with my outpost, to the northeast edge of the prairie. Greene's brigade was then relieved from outpost duty by troops of Fagan's division.

General Shelby had, upon returning to the front of the enemy on April 4, been encamped in the prairie on the Camden road to rest his troops, recruit his stock, and guard that road.

On the evening of the 9th, the enemy, having been re-enforced by Thayer's division from Fort Smith, 4,000 strong (cavalry, infantry, and artillery), marched upon the outposts of our army, under General Dockery, drove them in, and were preparing to flank General Shelby's camp when General Shelby evacuated it; and being ordered to keep in the enemy's front, threw his force into line of battle across the Elkin's Ferry and Washington and Camden roads, ordered Dockery to hold his left safe, and attacked the advancing enemy. The picket fighting soon assumed the proportions of a battle. The enemy threw out lines overlapping Shelby's line, opened upon him with fifteen pieces of artillery, and continued to advance. But the resistance was as dogged as their advance was overwhelming. The section of Collins' battery, under the immediate command of Captain Collins, with an almost unexampled courage held the artillery column of the enemy at bay, while the brigade, swept from flank to flank by the fierce artillery and small-arm fire, budged not until the order for retiring came. At nightfall the enemy had advanced but half a mile south of his position in the morning. That night, supposing Shelby had withdrawn, the foe continued to advance, but still the brave brigade withstood the platoon of artillery, and still Collins swept their ranks with shot and shell. At 11 o'clock I withdrew Shelby to camp. The enemy had now reached the point where the roads from Washington, Camden, and Lewisville join, looking northward. He wished to move to Camden, but he could not leave a force so near, on the Washington road, to attack his rear, and he was fearful to attack the fortified position on the southwestern edge of the prairie. Two days were spent (the 10th and 11th) in preparing for battle and throwing the troops into line. On the 12th, his whole force in line of battle, he marched upon the works, flanking them upon the left, to find them abandoned. The works had answered their purpose, forcing the enemy to waste

his time and keep his army starving in a barren country for nearly three days. Greene's brigade was again in action, skirmishing with the enemy's front and bringing up the rear of the army with its usual cool, steady courage. On the night of the 12th, my division encamped on Prairie De Rohan, and for the first in fourteen nights enjoyed an uninterrupted quiet. On the 13th, at 10 a. m., we were again en route to attain the enemy's front and oppose his advance on Camden. At 4 p. m. on the 14th, we were in his front, 14 miles from Camden, at the junction of the Prairie D'Ane and Camp Bragg, Camden, and Washington roads, having marched 60 miles. That evening and the next day were spent in continued skirmishing. Late in the evening of the 15th, finding that the enemy was determined to reach Camden that night, and that further effusion of blood was totally unnecessary, having sent a party under Lieut. John C. Moore, my acting assistant adjutant-general, to Camden to destroy such Government property there as would benefit the enemy, and leaving Colonel Lawther's regiment with orders to contest the enemy's advance, and after reaching Camden to move out on the Shreveport wire road and watch the enemy on that approach, I crossed my command from the Prairie D'Ane and Washington road over to the Camp Bragg road, and encamped them 8 miles from Camden. Colonel Lawther fought the advance of the enemy to the town in gallant style and camped as directed. That night the enemy marched the greater part of his force into Camden. On the following day Thayer entered, bringing up Steele's rear.

Such were the operations of my division up to the entrance of Steele's army into Camden. For over three weeks no day passed without marching and fighting, few nights in which we had rest. During that time no complaint was ever heard; their courage was high and confident; their action in battle admirable and worthy the highest praise. We had lost, say, 150 men killed, wounded, and missing, and had killed, wounded, and captured 600 of the enemy; this in rear-guard fighting. For six days we were assisted by other troops; during the balance of the time were opposed alone to the enemy, and General Steele's army of 13,000 men had occupied fifteen days in marching from Arkadelphia to Camden. The enemy were now encamped in and around Camden. On the 16th, General Shelby's brigade was ordered to Miller's Bluff to watch the river, &c., and I then had only Greene's brigade with me, consisting of about 500 men. On the 16th, Greene's brigade drove in the enemy's pickets on the Prairie D'Ane road. They were also driven in on various roads by portions of that brigade on the 17th. On the morning of the 17th, Colonel Greene's scouts informed me that a large train (225 wagons), with a guard of three regiments (two of infantry, one of cavalry, and two pieces of artillery), had started out on the Prairie D'Ane road from Camden. I wrote to General Fagan for assistance, as I had only 500 men. He sent me immediately Cabell's and Crawford's brigades. That night I marched out to attack the train, but was met by information that the wagon guard had been re-enforced by two regiments and two pieces of artillery, making their force now 2,500 and four pieces of artillery. With the re-enforcement of Cabell and Crawford my force was but 1,500, so I returned to camp. I was certain the train could not return until next morning. At 11 p. m. I wrote General Fagan for more assistance, as my force was but 1,500 men, and requested him to send my letter to General Price for his approval. The plan was for Greene, Cabell, and Crawford to

intersect the road 10 miles from Camden; for the other troops to enter the road at Poison Spring, 13 miles from Camden, at 8 o'clock the next morning. The plan was agreed upon.

With Cabell's, Crawford's, and Greene's brigades I marched at sunrise, and about 10 o'clock met the enemy's advance picket at Poison Spring, drove it back, and occupied an advantageous position on the brow of a hill; deployed my escort as skirmishers on the slope and held the enemy in check; posted Cabell's and Crawford's brigades (dismounted) directly in front of the enemy. Greene was held in reserve dismounted. At this time General Maxey's troops and Wood's battalion came up. General Maxey being my senior in rank, I reported to him, asking his plan of battle, stating how I had disposed my own. He answered that as I had planned the whole movement I should take charge of and make the fight. This I did, requesting him to post his command at right angles with my line, enfilading the enemy's line in my front, and to open the attack. My purpose was to cause them to throw their whole front toward Maxey, and while they were executing this movement to attack their flank with the main line. Wood's battalion was posted by my order, dismounted, on my extreme right; both flanks were guarded by cavalry. The plan was carried out. Maxey's troops attacked, drew the enemy's attention and front toward him. Cabell's and Crawford's brigades, under General Cabell, advanced with shouts, and were driving the enemy, when Greene came up with his brigade, between Cabell and Maxey, and the retreat became a rout. After driving them 2 miles beyond the train, I ordered Wood's battalion, which had been left to guard my extreme right, to mount and move rapidly to the front to pursue the enemy. They came, but were halted by General Maxey (who from this time assumed command) and put to work at the train to assist in getting off the wagons. Not knowing this, and still waiting for the mounted troops, I was surprised by an order from General Maxey to withdraw, which I did. From 400 to 600 dead Federals were left on the field. About 100 wounded, 120 prisoners, 4 pieces of artillery, 195 wagons, and many hundred small-arms were brought off and 30 wagons burned. Had I been allowed to pursue the enemy I cannot but think that at least 1,000 prisoners would have been added to the list. In fifteen minutes after the battle commenced the enemy were retreating, and in half an hour no force of the enemy was ever more completely routed than this.

The conduct of General Maxey's force was excellent, bearing as it did the earliest fire of the confident enemy. Cabell, inimitable almost in personal gallantry, led his command and first broke the enemy's column, and assisted by Greene, who brought up his troops in line of battle to the assistance of General Cabell under a heavy fire as steadily as on parade, crushed the enemy, who turned and fled in total confusion.

On the evening of the 18th, we were again in camp. Cabell's and Crawford's brigades reported back to General Fagan, and with Greene's brigade marched on the 19th to the Wire road, 12 miles from Camden. On the 19th, General Shelby's brigade was detached temporarily from my command and ordered to report to General Fagan for detached duty. From the 20th to the 26th, inclusive, my command was encamped, picketing to the front, and detachments from it having various small but successful encounters with the enemy. On the 26th, I was ordered to report direct to General Smith. On the 27th, the evacuation of Camden by Steele having been discovered,

my command marched to White Hall, on the Ouachita River, where Wood's battalion was ordered to report to me. Swam the river, came up with the retreating enemy, fought him until General Smith came up with the infantry, and the battle of Jenkins' Ferry was fought, the brigade being commanded by Colonel Greene (a special report of this battle has already been forwarded), and retired with the other forces.

During this long and arduous campaign, fought, as much of it was, under my own eye, I take pleasure in speaking of the officer-like conduct and the many gallant acts of bravery of my officers and men generally. To speak of the quick perception and foresight or the reckless bravery of Shelby, the élan and chivalrous bearing of Cabell, inspiring all who looked upon him, or the perseverance, untiring energy, and steady courage of Greene, would be telling a twice-told tale. The list is too long to narrate, but I say it with pride that of all the officers in my division not one have I seen or heard of who shrank from the performance of any duty assigned him.

In conclusion, I would express my gratification generally at the conduct of the whole division, and my belief that posterity will do them the honor they so well deserve. Special reports have already been forwarded, with recommendations for promotion of all those who specially distinguished themselves, and the reports of the several brigades are herewith inclosed, to which you are referred for particulars. At present I cannot give my losses in killed, wounded, and missing, as several of the commands which were under me either temporarily or constantly are now absent, but think the following figures about correct:

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Aggregate.
Greene's brigade	16	96	10	122
Shelby's brigade	13	62	15	90
Cabell's brigade	5	25	10	40
Total	34	183	35	252

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. S. MARMADUKE,
Major-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel BELTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Arkansas, Camden, Ark.

No. 72.

Reports of Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry, commanding Marmaduke's Cavalry Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, April 26, 1864.

MAJOR: On the morning of the 17th, while bivouacked in front of the enemy near the junction of the upper and middle Camden and Washington roads, my scouts reported that a train of twenty wagons,

escorted by 200 cavalry, was moving on the upper road. I immediately ordered the Third Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, to get on its rear and attack it. A short time after the regiment had marched my scouts again reported that a large train had joined the other; that it numbered 200 wagons and was guarded by one regiment of cavalry and two regiments of negro infantry, with three pieces of artillery. I at once placed the regiment in ambush and reported the facts to the brigadier-general commanding, then at Woodlawn.

Soon after these events the guard of the train was re-enforced by one regiment of cavalry, one regiment and one battalion of infantry, and two pieces of artillery, a detachment of which force (Sixth Kansas Cavalry) fell in with the head of my regiment while moving to the place ordered. Toward dark intelligence was received from my scouts that the enemy had encamped near the forks of the Prairie D'Ane and upper roads, and by your order Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell was withdrawn. On the morning of the 18th instant, leaving Kitchen's regiment and a detachment of the Third to cover our front and flank, I marched with Greene's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell; Burbridge's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Preston; a small detachment of Jeffers', under Captain Cobb, and Harris' battery, numbering in all 486 men. I came on the enemy in rear of Cabell's brigade at 9.30 o'clock. Dismounted and placed Harris' battery in position on the extreme right of our line. At 10 o'clock this battery opened on the enemy. The remainder of my command was held in reserve. The enemy heavily engaged our left and center, and at 10.45 o'clock I was ordered to its support. Moving rapidly for a half mile through a thick forest, we tore down a rail fence, formed in an open field under a heavy fire of musketry, and advanced steadily across it, passing another fence. The left and center were hotly pressed, when I advanced at the double-quick with loud cheers, passed the line, delivered several well-directed volleys, and charged the enemy through burning woods and a dense smoke. He gave way, closely pressed, but reformed under cover of his train. Upon this position we advanced, firing; charged the train, with great slaughter to the enemy, who abandoned his artillery on the field and again formed behind the huts, fences, and timber of an adjoining plantation. With cries of "Here's your mule!" and cheers for Missouri, his line was again broken by our advancing force. Once more he rallied in the thick brush beyond this plantation, through the bare fields of which we charged and drove him in confusion. Again another stand was made on the crest of a steep hill, which was as quickly carried at the charge. No further resistance was now made to our victorious line, which scattered and drove the enemy in every direction, until by your order the pursuit was stopped. The command rallied and moved by the left flank across the road to cover the removal of the captured train, animals, artillery, and arms. Toward sunset we remounted, brought up the rear, and marching all night reached the position left in the morning at daylight. In this action three of my regiments were absent.

Where all behaved so gallantly it is difficult to determine upon whom to bestow praise. Every man did his duty. There was no straggling, no plundering. For eighteen days we marched and engaged the enemy, and notwithstanding the loss of sleep for three nights previous to this action, the men bore themselves with cheer-

fulness and fortitude. To Capt. Benjamin Hooper, of my staff, I am under great obligations for valuable services on the field. His gallantry, as it has always been, was conspicuous. Privates Coleman, Company H, Fourth Regiment, and Kimbrough, Company F, Third Regiment, who acted as orderlies, executed my commands with intelligence and bravery. To the impetuosity of our advance is to be attributed my light loss in killed and wounded, a list* of which is herewith annexed.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, May 5, 1864.

MAJOR: In pursuance of your orders, I left my position on the Wire road at 10 a. m. on the 27th ultimo, and marched to White Hall, on the Ouachita River, where I was joined by Wood's battalion. I effected a crossing of that river between the hours of 5 p. m. on the 27th and 6 a. m. on the 28th, using two small boats to transport arms and equipments and swimming my animals. The work was slow and occupied the whole night. As soon as the crossing was complete I marched, by your orders, by a circuitous route in the direction of Buck Snort, hoping to get in front of the enemy, who had retreated from Camden. At 5 p. m. I halted one hour; sent Wood's battalion to report to Major-General Price. Marched all night and passed around Princeton, at which place the enemy's rear was ascertained to be encamped. Following this line I was placed between the enemy and the Saline River until I struck the road from Princeton to Tulip in his rear. I pursued rapidly. In the mean time Jeffers' regiment and Wood's battalion had followed the enemy from Princeton and were in my front. Colonel Jeffers engaged him 14 miles from Princeton, on the Jenkins' Ferry road, and I sent Harris' battery to his support. On reaching the field I found that the Federal rear guard had fallen back 200 yards and was then engaging Colonel Jeffers with artillery. He gave up this position, was pursued, and was again engaged by Colonel Jeffers 4 miles from the Saline River, to whose support I marched with Burbridge's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Preston. We skirmished until dark, when I withdrew, leaving a heavy line of vedettes on the ground. At daylight of the 30th, I was ordered forward to feel the enemy. I marched with Burbridge's regiment, commanded by Major Smith, and Greene's regiment, commanded by Captain Don. Brown, leaving Wood's battalion (mounted) in reserve and Jeffers' regiment in rear for want of ammunition, and threw forward Capt. L. D. Roberts, Company I, Fourth Regiment, with 50 men. He found the enemy one-half mile from the position occupied the previous evening. Skirmishing at once began, and the enemy retired slowly several hundred yards.

Upon a personal reconnaissance I determined to advance my force, and putting Greene's regiment on the left, covering the road and an

*Not found.

open field, I moved Major Smith to the right to threaten the enemy's flank. After a sharp fire he gave way, was driven from the field, but again took up position at its extremity under cover, which he maintained with determination for half an hour and then fell back. I pushed him on until I discovered from his fire that he was heavily re-enforced and was extending his left. I was now compelled to accept an unequal engagement before the infantry re-enforcement could reach me. The enemy was in force, but my men fought with steadiness, and advanced step by step until we gained a quarter of a mile on him, when at this juncture my right was hotly pressed. Three companies of Greene's regiment, however, sent to its support, held the enemy's increasing force in check. We had now fought for two hours, when Tappan's brigade reached the field and moved to my right, forcing a part of Burbridge's regiment to the right of that brigade, and a section of Lesueur's battery went into action on the right of Greene's regiment. As these guns were exposed I advanced this regiment some distance beyond them, but only to find that the right had given way and that the battery was withdrawn. The position of the regiment was critical, for it stood entirely alone; but fighting it twenty minutes or more, with severe loss, I withdrew it in good order and reformed the command. Again we advanced and continued in action until ordered to withdraw for want of ammunition, notwithstanding we had once supplied ourselves on the field from the boxes of the enemy. At the close of the battle I mounted and followed the enemy to the Saline River, from which Colonel Jeffers drove his scattering skirmishers.

I cannot speak too highly of the courage, endurance, and soldierly bearing of my men in this engagement. Each man did his duty. Lieutenant-Colonel Preston (who, though ill, came on the field and took command of his regiment) and Captain Don. Brown, commanding regiment, and Capt. L. D. Roberts, Fourth Regiment, behaved with marked and distinguished courage; and I regret to record the death of Maj. Dennis Smith, of the Fourth, a brave and devoted officer, who fell in the hottest of the fight in front of his regiment. My loss was severe in proportion to the force I had engaged. In Greene's regiment there were 6 privates killed; 7 officers, 2 sergeants, and 22 privates wounded. In Burbridge's, 1 officer killed; 2 officers, 2 sergeants, and 8 privates wounded. Total, 7 killed, 43 wounded.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, May 8, 1864.

MAJOR: The following diary exhibits the marches and actions of this brigade in the late campaign: March 28, brigade broke up winter quarters at Camden and marched 23 miles to Tate's Bluff, at the mouth of the Little Missouri River; Lawther's regiment ordered to Craver's Ferry, 10 miles above, and to throw a scout forward. March 29, Lawther ordered to cross the Little Missouri; brigade remained in bivouac; Major Bennett with three companies engaged

the enemy on the upper Terre Noir bridge; was driven back; loss, 3 men wounded. March 30, brigade crossed Little Missouri at sunrise, swimming the animals; section of Blocher's battery, Fagan's Arkansas infantry brigade, commanded by Lieutenant Zimmerman, accompanies the command; marched through Terre Noir bottom, on the lower Arkadelphia road; bivouacked at McPeak's, within 12 miles of Arkadelphia; distance traveled, 22 miles; General Marmaduke arrives at midnight. March 31, Lawther joins Major Bennett with his regiment; engages the enemy 14 miles from Arkadelphia on the upper road; skirmished one hour; drove the enemy 8 miles and bivouacked in his front; loss, 2 men wounded; Lawther fell back to the upper bridge on Terre Noir; brigade ordered by Brigadier-General Marmaduke to move over to Lawther's position by a forced march; marched at 10 a. m.; crossed Wingfield's bridge, on Terre Noir; sent scout to Arkadelphia; met Lawther near the bridge; found no enemy there; distance marched, 15 miles. April 1, scouts report the enemy moving in force from Arkadelphia; he attacks and pursues my scouts on the Spoonville road at 12 m.; sent Lawther to meet him; command put in readiness for action; enemy fell back; Lawther ordered to annoy the enemy's flank; command marched at 10 p. m.; ordered by Brigadier-General Marmaduke to join Brigadier-General Cabell at Cottingham's Store on the 2d instant at 2 p. m.; marched all night; reached vicinity of Little Missouri at daylight; learned that Brigadier-General Cabell was at Antoine, moving forward without knowledge of the presence of Steele's army; marched up the Little Missouri in the direction of Okolona to reenforce him; got near that place; found the enemy in force there threatening to flank me; marched toward the river; crossed it at Elkin's Ford; reached the vicinity of Cottingham's Store at 12.45 p. m.; ordered to bivouac; distance traveled, 36 miles; Lawther attacks the enemy's flank near Spoonville; loss, 1 lieutenant and 1 man wounded; moved on toward Okolona; ran upon the enemy, who was driven into town; advanced again with artillery; Lawther retired, moving toward Rome; near Rome, at 10 p. m., got into the Federal camp; drove in his pickets; retreated to Craver's Ferry, on the Little Missouri. April 3, sent forward Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, commanding regiment, to reconnoiter the enemy, who is reported by my scouts to be at Elkin's Ford, on the Little Missouri; fell in with him on the Prairie D'Ane road, 4 miles from that ford, and drove him handsomely over 2 miles; enemy in the mean time re-enforced, and attempting to turn his right the regiment retired to the Widow Cornelius' farm and formed; at this point brought up the brigade; no further demonstrations made; command bivouacked in line; skirmish lasted two hours; loss, 1 sergeant wounded; marched 12 miles. April 4, at daylight to-day made the following dispositions: Advanced 1½ miles, threw forward Captain Cobb, commanding detachment of Jeffers' regiment (about 65 men), to bring on the action, as mounted skirmishers; held one company mounted; dismounted the remainder of the brigade; Captain Cobb engages the enemy a little after sunrise; deployed Lieutenant McCaleb's battalion of dismounted cavalry as skirmishers in rear of Cobb; placed Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, commanding regiment, in the center; held Kitchen's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ellison, on the right, and Greene's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, on the left and 200 yards in rear of the line; sent one company of cavalry to

the right to observe the enemy. Captain Cobb skillfully occupied the enemy during these maneuvers and drove him several hundred yards; enemy strengthens his lines; Cobb moved to the left flank, uncovering McCaleb's skirmishers; sharp action follows, with loss to us; Lieut. Thomas Lynch, Jeffers' regiment, in command of the reserve skirmishers, fell; the line for a moment wavered, when Lieut. G. W. Scott, of Company I, Fourth Regiment, was ordered to its command; he rallied the men, and advancing to the front charged as skirmishers and drove the enemy from a strong position.

I now deployed Burbridge's regiment as skirmishers, with intervals of one pace; brought up one gun of Lieutenant Zimmerman's section (the other piece was disabled); ordered Captain Cobb to press the enemy's right and heavily engage the enemy; he held his position for half an hour and then gave way, fighting as he retired; drove him half a mile. At this time Brigadier-General Marmaduke appeared on the field with a section of Hughey's battery and Monroe's regiment, of Cabell's brigade. The latter he moved to the right. The action was recommenced with greater vigor, when the enemy again gave ground. The whole line was advanced and the reserve brought up within 75 yards of the first line. The artillery did effective service—silenced the enemy's battery and broke its support. He retreated to the river, leaving his dead on the field. Our right was advanced to within 75 yards of his line, when it gave way. The field was ours. General Marmaduke then ordered the command to withdraw 2 miles to a point naturally inaccessible, and which was strengthened by hasty works of timber.

The conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, his officers and men, was particularly distinguished in this action for coolness and gallantry. Lieut. G. W. Scott and Lieut. Jesse McCaleb, Company I, deserve especial notice. Lieutenant Scott's charge with the reserve skirmishers was brilliantly and timely done. He cannot be too highly commended for bravery. Captain Cobb, of Jeffers' regiment, was also distinguished for gallant and useful conduct. He handled his squadron with skill and courage, and is a modest and meritorious officer. Greene's and Kitchen's regiments, though not actively engaged, were constantly under fire and behaved well. Lieutenant Zimmerman deserves to be mentioned for the manner in which he served his gun and for the gallant behavior of himself and men. Loss, 1 lieutenant, 1 non-commissioned officer, and 4 privates killed; 2 officers and 21 privates wounded. Retired in rear of Cabell's brigade at midnight; detached Greene's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, to hold the position; marched until daylight to the southwestern edge of Prairie D'Ane, near Fulke's, 16 miles.

April 5, Campbell skirmishes with the enemy in front of our works; holds him in check all day; loss, none. April 6, brigade takes position on the edge of the prairie and assists in constructing Fort McKay; Campbell fights the enemy again and falls back 4 miles; no pursuit. April 7, Captain Porter, Fourth Regiment, with 150 men, relieves Campbell; engages the enemy, who retires; Lieut. G. W. Scott, Company I, Fourth Regiment, with 1 man charges 10 of the enemy; routed them, capturing arms and equipments. April 8, Porter still skirmishes with the enemy, who does not press him; is relieved by Brigadier-General Cabell. April 9, no fighting today. April 10, occupy our position at the works—the extreme left; enemy appears on the upper edge of the prairie; moves on my

left; skirmishers engage; sent a section of Harris' battery to support the left; enemy opened with artillery; an artillery fight takes place; enemy advances his line; drives in my skirmishers; is driven back in return; again takes the position, which he retires from at night; vedettes and skirmishers remain under arms all night; loss, 3 horses killed and 1 man wounded. April 11, enemy appears in force and offers battle; skirmish with him on the left; is engaged in the center by Brigadier-General Shelby; at 5 p. m. all the troops retire; brigade ordered to occupy the position and delay the enemy; relieved General Shelby's skirmishers at dark, 1½ miles in front of the works; covered the front with mounted and dismounted skirmishers; occasional shots during the night. April 12, sunrise, Steele's army appears on the prairie; skirmishing along the whole line; the enemy is held in check until 9.30 o'clock, when he advances on our left in large force and cannonades heavily; our forces are gradually withdrawn, and at 10.30 o'clock the works are abandoned; Captain Roberts, Company I, Fourth Regiment, brings up the rear; enemy follows and attacks him, using artillery; rear-guard fighting continues for several miles, when the enemy withdraw; encamped at sundown on Prairie De Rohan; detachment under Lieut. G. W. Scott attacks the enemy's rear; no loss; distance marched, 12 miles. April 13, marched at 10 a. m. 8 miles on the Munn's Mill road; ordered to the Anderson road, and halted two hours at Centreville; marched all night and reached Munn's Mill at 3 a. m.; distance, 30 miles. April 14, moved at daylight in the direction of Camden; got in front of the enemy, and bivouacked at Gulley's, 10 miles from Camden; flankers fell in with a small force which they attacked and dispersed; distance, 26 miles. April 15, ordered into position at 7 a. m. to cover the retreat of Shelby, who was falling back before the advancing column; remained until Shelby retired; moved off all the brigade, except Lawther's regiment and a section of Harris' battery; engaged the enemy at Gulley's, and kept up a retreating fight for 3 miles; turned to the right and moved over to the Camp Bragg road, 6 miles of Camden; Lawther's regiment remained in front of Steele's column, fighting until dark and passing through Camden; loss, 4 wounded; distance, 10 miles. April 16, drove in the enemy's pickets on Prairie D'Ane road; captured 3; Lieut. Ambrose W. Hulett charges a detachment 2 miles of Camden, capturing 2; several escapades to-day; ordered at 4 p. m. to move to the Prairie D'Ane road and attack Thayer's rear, who was moving into Camden; marched rapidly and found the enemy's rear guard 4 miles of town; pursues it in a trot, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, commanding Greene's regiment, in front; overtake the enemy at Mrs. ——— and skirmish with them; Campbell moves on, driving in the rear guard; falls upon enemy's outpost; routs it; runs it into town; captures colors and camp equipments; column moved back to its first position on Camp Bragg road; loss, 1 captain (staff officer), captured; distance, 15 miles. April 17, several escapades in sight of the enemy's camp to-day; Lieutenant-Colonel Ellison on outpost captures 3 prisoners; Lieutenants Scott, Company I; Hulett, Company G, Fourth Regiment, and Lieutenant Smith, Company E, Jeffers' regiment, each commanding detachment, charged the enemy south and west of Camden, inflicting loss; loss, 1 man wounded; scouts report train and escort just passing the enemy's vedettes on the upper road; Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, Third Regiment, and Captain Jacobs, Fourth Regiment,

ordered to pursue; escort is re-enforced, and consists of two regiments of cavalry, two regiments of negroes, regiment and battalion of white infantry, four pieces of artillery; Campbell ordered to lie in ambush; he falls in with Sixth Kansas Cavalry and drives it; train moves on and encamps on Prairie D'Ane road near Poison Spring; General Marmaduke reaches camp at 5 p. m. and orders command to move; marched to Campbell's position and return by order, reaching camp after midnight; loss, 2 men wounded; distance traveled, 18 miles. April 18, marched at 7 a. m. and reached the enemy near Poison Spring; Liutenant-Colonel Ellison and detachment of Greene's regiment are left to cover our old position; brigade dismounted and held in reserve; Harris' battery takes position on the extreme right; enemy presses our left; brigade ordered to its support; advanced at double-quick; charges and routs the enemy; enemy makes several stands, but is each time charged and routed with slaughter; whole train captured; brigade withdraws and reaches camp at sunrise the day following; loss, 1 officer and 1 private killed, 1 officer and 13 men wounded; distance traveled, 37 miles; Greene's and Burbridge's regiments and Cobb's detachment alone engaged. April 19, moved over to the Wire road and bivouacked at Mrs. Walker's, 12 miles of Camden, picketing the right and center; distance traveled, 15 miles. April 20, *in statu quo.* April 21, enemy attacks my picket on Wire road; is repulsed. April 22, all quiet. April 23, marched at 8 a. m. in advance to make a demonstration in force; deploy skirmishers this side of bridge on Two Bayous and advance main force in line; drive the enemy across the bridge; light skirmishing; shelled the enemy; withdraw and occupy former position at 8 a. m.; distance, 20 miles. April 21, *in statu quo.* April 25, enemy's cavalry drives in my picket, which being re-enforced repulsed the enemy and pursue him to the bridge; loss, 1 man captured and 1 wounded; sent Kitchen's regiment to Champagnolle to guard pontoon bridge. April 26, advanced Greene's regiment 6 miles. April 27, marched at 10 a. m. to White Hall, on Ouachita River, where Wood's battalion reports. Sent Lawther's regiment to guard prisoners captured by Brigadier-General Fagan; crossed the river with Greene's and Burbridge's regiments, Wood's battalion, and Harris' battery; swam horses; up all night. April 28, marched all day and night; sent Wood's battalion to report to Major-General Price; halted one hour within 6 miles of Princeton. April 29, still marching; got on enemy's right flank; got on his rear between Tulip and Princeton; Jeffers' regiment and Wood's battalion in my front; attack enemy's rear on Jenkins' Ferry road; sent Harris' battery forward; again attacked the enemy, who halts on the Saline River; skirmish with him until dark; distance traveled from Wire road to Saline River, 90 miles, without feed for horses or rations and sleep for men; occasional skirmishing all night; no loss. April 30, ordered forward with Greene's and Burbridge's regiments to feel the enemy; begun skirmishing before sunrise; drove the enemy 500 yards; he halts and fights hard; is forced back half a mile; general engagement now begins; enemy in force; still drive the enemy slowly, fighting two hours without support; infantry comes up; for full account see report of May 5; loss, 6 privates killed, 1 major killed, 9 officers, 4 sergeants, and 30 privates wounded; bivouacked near the field. May 1, marched in direction of Arkadelphia, 25 miles. May 2, marched to within 12 miles of Arkadelphia; distance traveled, 13 miles; campaign ends.

Recapitulation: Killed, 3 officers, 12 men; wounded, 13 officers, 84 men. Skirmishes, 16. Engagements, 3. Distance marched by main body, 435 miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 73.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,
Camp at Bullock's, May 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my division at the battle of Marks' Mills: On April 21, I received orders to report to Brigadier-General Fagan from General Price, and on April 24, I crossed the Ouachita with my division, having had assigned me the brigade of Colonel Crawford. The march on the 24th was a long and heavy one, and we encamped within 8 miles of the scene of the operations of the 25th, sending out scouting parties in every direction to find out the strength, position, and designs of the enemy, and also to ascertain the proximity of the train reported to be moving from Camden to Pine Bluff. By daylight of the 25th, it was known that the enemy was in heavy force, with a great number of wagons, and was moving from the Moro Bottom, where they had encamped the night before, to the Mount Elba crossing on the Saline River. As soon as their outlying pickets and flankers were encountered General Fagan with great rapidity and judgment made his dispositions for the fight. He ordered my division to turn square off to the right from the road the Federals were on, and by making a rapid detour came back to the road again in their immediate front, thus having them between two fires, for General Cabell's division was held in hand by General Fagan to attack the enemy in the rear.

The 10-mile gallop was heavy and wearisome, but the men kept well together, and I knew they were keen and eager for the fray. The road which ran directly from Marks' Mills to Mount Elba was gained before even the Federal advance had passed, and I then at once commenced for the fight. I sent Major Elliott, of my own brigade, with the First Battalion Missouri Cavalry, to seize the Mount Elba crossing and guard it well, which was done with eminent success, driving off the guard, killing all their horses, and capturing many prisoners.

I had advanced scarcely a mile in the direction of Marks' Mills when I met the Federal advance coming rapidly in the direction of Mount Elba, with their wagons thundering in their rear, and General Cabell's guns the grand keynote of the whole performance. I determined to charge them first, last, and all the time, so I formed Colonel Crawford's brigade, commanded by the gallant Wright, to the right of the main road and in advance, then Shanks' regiment, then Gordon's regiment, of my own brigade, holding well in hand as a reserve

Smith's and Hunter's regiments. My own brigade was commanded by Col. David Shanks, as senior colonel, and was well and skillfully handled. As soon as the Federal advance had been driven back upon the main body I directed Captain Collins to fire two blank cartridges, to inspirit our own soldiers fighting gallantly in the rear, and then ordered my whole line to advance rapidly, which was done by an advance, under Captain Williams, at the charge. The effect was instantaneous. The charge was a defeat, the defeat a rout, the rout a panic, and the panic almost destruction. The Federals made scarcely any stand after first being broken, and we captured great numbers of prisoners, wagons, ambulances, negroes, guns, and 2 pieces of the famous Second Missouri U. S. Artillery,* which were charged and taken by Colonels Shanks and Gordon after a brief and bloody fight. My division captured over 800 prisoners, over 100 wagons, arms enough to arm every man with the most improved weapons, and everything else a routed and destroyed brigade could abandon in their frantic efforts to escape from the avengers of three years of wrong and aggression. The victory was complete, and the sober shades of evening came down upon one of the most final and crushing victories of the war. The men were now drawn off, the wounded cared for, the dead buried, and the weary and hungry soldiers rested for the night upon the "field of their fame, fresh and gory."

It would be unnecessary to mention by name all who distinguished themselves on this day, for all did their duty well and nobly; but I will say that Colonel Wright and his officers and men fought well and gallantly, and by their side came the officers and men of my own brigade, and especially Captain Williams, of my advance, who at all times and under all circumstances is a brave, skillful, dashing, successful, and competent officer. From the battle until ordered to report again to General Marmaduke my division marched whenever and wherever ordered by General Fagan.

Hoping this report may prove satisfactory, I am, captain, very truly, yours,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. Division.

Capt. WYATT C. THOMAS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fagan's Division.

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HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,
Camp Bullock, May 3, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to send you the following report of my operations against the enemy since leaving Camden, Ark., up to the time when ordered to report to Brigadier-General Fagan: March 23, 1864, I received General Marmaduke's orders to move in the direction of Little Rock, and that night camped 16 miles north of Camden. Upon arriving at Princeton, and finding no subsistence there for either men or horses, I continued Colonel Gordon in command of that post, with his regiment picketing and patrolling the whole front and left of the town, while with the remainder of my brigade I took post on the Saline River, near Jenkins' Ferry, and watched the river for 50 miles. Here learning from my scouts that General Steele was advancing in heavy force in the direction of Arkadelphia, I imme-

*Battery E.

diately determined to collect my scattered forces and close up with the enemy. This required two days, and on the 30th I had an interview with General Marmaduke at Tate's Bluff, where I received orders to attack the enemy in the rear. The balance of the day and night was spent in preparation for the march, and at daylight of April 1, I started and crossed the Ouachita River about dark, fording the horses and ferrying over my artillery and wagons at the Montroy Ferry, then marching all night to get within striking distance of the Federals by the morrow. Before crossing the river, however, I sent a scouting party to Arkadelphia to ascertain if all was clear behind me, and they, under command of Private Daniel Ingram, dashed into the town and captured 1 captain and 12 men, numbering themselves only 8.

On the morning of the 2d, I struck the main Arkadelphia and Washington road and found the trail broad and the scent hot and breast-high. The pursuit was rapid and resolved. About 11 o'clock their rear was gained, consisting of one brigade of infantry and one regiment of cavalry, with two pieces of artillery. Captain Thorp, commanding my advance of 100 picked men, charged desperately down the road upon the infantry, and the men fired their revolvers with deadly effect at point-blank range. I supported Thorp with my entire force in battle line on each side of the road, and steadily drove them before me. The Federals were perfectly drilled and fought well, and retired at first in splendid order. I had with me only two pieces of my battery, under Captain Collins, and they were advanced as flying artillery either at the trot or gallop. There were many disadvantages and obstacles to be overcome, not the least of which was the wind, being directly in my front, and the enemy firing the dry woods in every direction, thus causing my lines frequently to encounter and pass through almost intolerable heat and dust. The pursuit was pressed hard. From one position they retired to another, and sometimes I had to resort to my artillery to dislodge them. The men seemed eager as bloodhounds, and never halted or retired under the hottest fire. In the first charge the gallant Thorp was shot down, and Lieutenant Trigg, of General Marmaduke's escort, mortally wounded. I immediately ordered Capt. D. A. Williams, of Smith's regiment, to take command of the advance, which he did with proud and chivalrous daring. Until dark the fight was kept up, and just as the action closed Colonel Gordon and Major Elliott, with their commands, made a desperate and daring charge upon the enemy's whole line, now re-enforced by another brigade of infantry and two more pieces of artillery, and drove them from it with severe loss and the capture of many prisoners. Without a mouthful to eat for men or horses I bivouacked upon the field, determined to push them again on the morrow and harass them in every possible manner. Carefully posting my pickets and ascertaining their position, I waited for daylight.

On the morning of the 3d, their vedettes were encountered about a mile north of Okolona, which were soon driven in, and I found the entire army lying quietly in camp, with their same rear guard, now heavily covered by cavalry, about 2 miles from the town. This I at once attacked and fought three hours, inflicting on him severe loss. While engaged a terrible hail-storm came up from the northeast and spread its dark wings over the sky. The scene was rugged and sublime. Amid the jar of the thunder, the flash of the lightning, and the moaning and sighing of the pines as the pitiless hail-stones

tore through them, there was mingled the crash of artillery, the sharp rattle of musketry, and ever and anon as the wind ceased there came the wild blare of bugles and the ring of sabers from the valley below, where the enemy were fighting. Twice during the day I felt their entire line and found it nearly 2 miles long, and twice they advanced in force, but were driven back each time. I drew off at 2 o'clock and retired to the little village of Antoine, where I fed men and horses and camped for the night. Long before morning my ever-trusty and faithful scouts brought me intelligence that General Carr had marched with a brigade of cavalry to my rear, and another brigade of infantry was on my left flank waiting until I attacked again, when they would close in upon me with deadly effect. My ammunition was now nearly exhausted, the men and horses completely worn out, and I determined to cross the Little Missouri River, supply myself with ordnance stores, and await further orders. So, on the 4th, I got over the river safely and took position on Prairie D'Ane near the Camden and Washington road and the Elkin's Ferry and Camden road, ready at all times to operate upon either, as the case might require. April 5, 6, 7, and 8, was spent in desultory skirmishing, with now and then an alarm, in which I formed my command in battle line; but on the evening of the 9th, sharp, rapid, and heavy firing on the Elkin's Ferry and Camden road warned me that an advance in force was being made upon our position, covered by Colonel Dockery's brigade. I turned out my command immediately and took position in rear of Colonel Dockery, covering the direct road to our intrenched position. The mêlée of the battle approached rapidly. Colonel Dockery was driven back, and I ordered him to take position on my extreme left, which he had scarcely done when I opened fire upon the enemy's cloud of skirmishers. Captain Collins had but two guns to fight the grand advance of Steele's army, and as battery after battery rushed up from the rear and opened upon him he never changed his position, but held his men to their hot and desperate work with calm and daring courage. The artillery duel was terrible and magnificent. The broad prairie stretched away smoothly as a sea of glass. The long lines of cavalry on either side of the guns, and over all the bursting bombs and the white powder clouds, came fast and furious. For three hours the fight went on. Collins fought their eighteen guns, and his supports never wavered for a moment, though exposed to a concentrated fire of artillery rarely ever endured by cavalry. At dark General Marmaduke ordered me to retire, which was done in perfect order. After falling back a mile I found the enemy advancing stubbornly upon me, and I knew that if he was not checked at once he would command our fortified position with his artillery before daylight. I ordered Collins once more in position on the naked prairie and deployed about 400 men as skirmishers along their entire front, and a real night battle began. For three hours more the fight went on, the whole heavens lit up with bursting bombs and the falling flames of muskets. Their advance was checked for the night, and at 12 p. m. I drew off, after eight hours of severe fighting. The next day I covered the withdrawal of our army, skirmishing with the enemy the whole time, and the next night I camped at Prairie De Rohan, 12 miles from the field of battle. On the 15th, I was ordered by General Marmaduke to get in front of the enemy, then advancing upon Camden, which, after a long and heavy march, was done, and I took position in advance of General Marmaduke's brigade, at Poison

Spring, and after skirmishing with the enemy's advance that night until dark I rested in line of battle until morning, when the Federals advanced in force, and a fight of two hours ensued, when I was ordered to retire, and I turned off to the right of the road and went into camp near Woodlawn. On the 19th, I received orders to march to Miller's Bluff, on the Ouachita, which was done, and while there I received orders from General Price to report temporarily to General Fagan.

During my entire active operations, both in front and rear of the enemy, I have to thank my officers and men for courage, devotion, endurance, and stern and dashing bravery. Colonels Shanks, Smith, and Gordon behaved, as usual, with undeviating courage. Captain Thorp is a brave and dashing officer and deserves promotion. Captain Williams, modest and retiring, is a lion in battle and a lamb in the quietude of the camp-fire. Captains Franklin and Adams, of Shanks' regiment, in the first fight in the rear charged upon the Federal infantry closely enough to have their horses wounded by bayonets. Maj. Benjamin Elliott, Captains McDaniel, Schnabel, Lieutenants Tucker, Wood, Adjutant Wood, and Captain Walton, of the battalion, are towers of strength in danger's dark and trying hour. It is useless to particularize when all did so well. There is not an officer or man in my brigade that I noticed who did not do his duty. Collins is a perfect hero, and his artillery was splendid. Accompanying this please find a report of the killed and wounded.

Hoping this may prove satisfactory, I will close by stating that since General Marmaduke ordered my brigade to attack General Steele at Arkadelphia, we have killed, wounded, and captured more Federals than my brigade numbers, likewise 2 rifled James guns, 4 stand of regimental colors, and 125 wagons, besides rearming my brigade at the cost of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.

Major HENRY EWING,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Marmaduke's Division.

ADDENDA.

Return of Casualties in Shelby's brigade in the late engagements with the enemy (Marks' Mills not included).

[Compiled from nominal lists of casualties.]

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
Elliott's battalion	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	*25
Gordon's regiment	.....	1	.....	4	.....	1	6
Hunter's regiment†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shanks' regiment	.....	3	1	18	.....	3	25
Smith's regiment	.....	5	1	9	.....	11	26
Collins' battery	.....	2	.....	3	.....	.....	5
Total	.....	11	2	34	.....	15	87

* Estimated on original. † No report.

No. 74.

Report of Lieut. Col. Benjamin Elliott, First Missouri Cavalry Battalion, of skirmishes near Princeton and at Whitmore's Mill, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ELLIOTT'S BATTALION,
Camp Bullock, Ark., May 8, 1864.

On April 28, I was ordered to take my battalion to or in the direction of Princeton and ascertain whether General Steele's whole force had left Camden. I sent Lieutenant Tucker with a scout on the main Princeton and Jenkins' Ferry road. I also sent Lieutenant Walker to the left of Princeton, with orders to report as soon as he could ascertain their force. I sent other scouts on the different roads leading from Tulip to Princeton. I arrived at Tulip with the rest of my command at 11.30 a. m.; halted my command to await reports from the different scouts. I had to wait but a short time, when I received a dispatch from Lieutenant Tucker that he had come in contact with the enemy and was fighting them. I sent him the remainder of his company, immediately ordering him to hold them in check, if possible, until I could ascertain what force it was; but overpowered by numbers, he was compelled to fall back. I then sent Captain Walton, and soon after Captain Schnabel; also Lieutenant Walker with a portion of Captain Holt's company, who held them in check until dark. I received word from Lieutenant Walker's scout that General Steele's whole force was on the march. I immediately took up the line of march, which was continued, and the next day until 4 p. m., when we arrived at Pratt's Ferry, the place where I was ordered to report. No person at the ferry could give me any information as to where General Fagan was. My men and horses were tired down, having been on a continued march for thirty-six hours without sleep or anything to eat. No forage or subsistence could be had at the river, and my only chance was to cross, which I did, finding plenty of forage and subsistence.

On Saturday morning (the 30th) a force of 2,000 Federals came to Whitmore's Mill, which was 4 miles from my camp. They sent out a scout of 150 men and drove in our pickets. I ordered two companies immediately, who repulsed the scout. The whole force at the mill seemed to have taken fright. Thinking General Fagan's whole cavalry force was after them, they commenced setting fire to their train and burned 200 wagons in one place, destroying a great amount of camp and garrison equipage. Ordnance and ordnance stores were strewn for miles on the road, a great deal of which might be easily taken care of. Hundreds of blankets, oil-cloths, and overcoats were piled and burned. On Sunday (May 1) I sent out a scout on the different roads leading from the Benton and Pratt's Ferry road to the Little Rock and Jenkins' Ferry road, driving in their pickets at every point. I also sent Captain Greenwood's company to make an attack on their foraging parties that might be started for Little Rock. He routed them in great confusion. I followed the next morning in their rear. They continued burning their wagons so far as I followed them, which was in 20 miles of the Rock. I counted 65 mules and 10 wagons burned in the first 8 miles we passed over, and I think there was equally as many the balance of the way. We there turned to the left and went to Benton, and from there back to Pratt's Ferry, where we received orders to join our brigade.

I would respectfully suggest that an officer be sent to that side of the Saline to see to the property, as there are wagons there which can be repaired easily, and iron, shot, shell, lead, and any quantity of mules and harness which has been picked up by the citizens.

B. ELLIOTT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Battalion.

Captain MCARTHUR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 75.

Report of Brig. Gen. Samuel B. Maxey, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Division, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HEADQUARTERS MAXEY'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
Camp on Middle Camden Road, Ark., April 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I respectfully submit the following report of the operations of the troops I had the honor to command in the battle of Poison Spring on the 18th instant: Early on the morning of that day I was officially advised that a heavy train of forage wagons of the enemy was out on the old military road between Camden and Washington, supported by a considerable force of artillery, cavalry, and infantry. I was directed by the major-general commanding to proceed with my division without delay from my bivouac near Woodlawn to Lee's farm, on the Camden and Washington road, about 10 miles from Camden, at which point I would find other troops, and as senior officer to take command on my arrival. I put my division in motion and arrived at the point designated about 9 a. m., and found Brigadier-General Marmaduke with his cavalry command there and Brigadier-General Cabell with his getting in. General Marmaduke at once tendered the command to me. From him I learned the dispositions of the enemy, his probable strength, and the estimated size of the train. The disposition of our forces was soon made: Marmaduke's division on the right, Cabell's in the center, and Maxey's division (brought by me from the Indian Territory), composed of Gano's Texas brigade, under Col. Charles De Morse; Walker's Choctaw brigade, commanded by Col. Tandy Walker; Krumbhaar's battery, commanded by Capt. W. B. Krumbhaar, attached to Gano's brigade, on the left. Hughey's battery, attached to Cabell's command, was placed on Cabell's line on an elevation on the left of the road; Krumbhaar's battery in the center of Maxey's division.

The enemy occupied a position on favorable high ground in our front, with a portion of it extending down the slope toward the open ground south. The train was closed up on the road in rear of the enemy's line. Our line being formed, the plan was to move Maxey's division forward, the right of it passing sufficiently to the left of the old field south of the road to be concealed, the left to be moved forward so as to bring that division fronting the enemy, and to bring on the fight with that division, and to throw Cabell's division forward through the field into the fight so soon as Maxey's division became well engaged, and to move the forces on the right well forward, covering the road.

In compliance with this general plan, Maxey's division was at once

put in motion and moved as steadily as possible, considering the difficulties presented by broken ground and dense undergrowth. Hughey's battery was set to work to attract attention from this movement. The division was delayed half an hour longer from engagement than I anticipated, owing to the nature of the ground. Desultory firing had been going on for some time, followed by very heavy firing, and learning that the enemy was pressing hard upon Gano's brigade, right of Maxey's division, I threw Greene's brigade of Missourians, of Marmaduke's command, to its relief. This brigade went gallantly and with a will to its work. It arrived on the right of Gano's brigade just as the engagement on that part of the line became heavy and general, a part of the enemy's line having fallen back. Hot work was going on all along the line from the right of Greene's to the left of the Choctaw brigade, the extreme left of the line. One continued shout was heard, and an unfaltering advance of all that part of the line. Cabell's division was immediately ordered forward, going in splendidly, charging in double-quick over the open field into the fight. The fight was now general all along the line, our men pressing forward and the enemy giving back everywhere. Not a false step had been made; not a position attacked but was taken. The road was gained and the coveted train in our possession. Step by step the enemy had withdrawn his artillery, but his forces, being routed, abandoned it, and his battery of four pieces fell into our possession. Our troops, exultant with victory, pressed forward for more than 2 miles, when they were recalled by me to complete the task we came to perform. The brigades were reformed, details rapidly made, and the train put in motion on the road to Woodlawn, where the last of it arrived in safety, together with the battery, about midnight.

The battle of Poison Spring was fought about 10 miles from Camden. Our force was between Camden and the enemy. Of the force in front I had no fears. The force in rear at Camden was known to be greatly superior to us in numbers, and could at any time after they were notified by the artillery have moved on our rear.

To secure the train I moved Cabell up the road toward Camden, left Marmaduke in rear, moved Maxey's division in front of the train, and requested Fagan, who was on the middle Camden road, to hold that position, and re-enforced him with Gano's brigade, of Maxey's division. This made the road over which the captured property passed as safe as it could be with the force in hand. About thirty wagons, without teams and some broken, were burned on the field; about 170, with teams and everything complete, were saved; the artillery also. The enemy's force was about 2,500. At no time did we have that many engaged. His loss in killed and wounded will reach 650. The proportion of killed was variously estimated at from 300 to 500. I know they were thick.

In making a report where my knowledge of the troops with whom I have been associated but a very short time (except my own division) is necessarily imperfect, I fear to do injustice unintentionally, the more so that in this report I have not the benefit of General Marmaduke's report of his division. I can only say, so far as my observation extended every officer and man did his whole duty. The plan of battle was in every particular carried out. Hughey's battery by its timely and splendid work drew attention from Maxey's division, and in turn that and Greene's brigade, with the unerring fire

of Krumbhaar's battery, drew attention from Cabell's command until it had partially succeeded in crossing the open field. Finally, the whole line moved forward like a sheet of living fire, carrying death and destruction before it. To the indomitable energy of Captain Krumbhaar in carrying his battery over ground almost impassable, and the subsequent working of his battery, much of the success of Maxey's division is due. I beg leave to call special attention to the Choctaw brigade. These people came of their own volition. No law or treaty compelled them to do so. They were placed on the extreme left of the attacking division. Nobly, gallantly, gloriously they did their duty. They fought the very army (Thayer's, from Fort Smith) that had destroyed their once happy homes, insulted their women, and driven them with their children destitute upon the world, and many an avenging blow was struck; many yet will be. The troops from Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas vied with each other in honorable emulation. To Major Wood, commanding Missouri battalion, and to his battalion I am much indebted for valuable assistance in saving the train, and to others who lent a cheerful, helping hand whose names I do not know. The various members of my own staff were of great service. Col. E. E. Portlock, Capt. C. W. Ballance, Lieut. James Patteson, and A. C. Eliason, acting aide-de-camp of my staff, were left with my division to aid its movements in the execution of the plan of battle, and rendered valuable and important service to the Choctaw brigade, with which they acted in executing the difficult task of moving a line into action over rough ground and through dense undergrowth, and bringing it out at the right time and in the right place by partial change of front. Capt. Tom P. Ochiltree, my assistant adjutant-general, and Capt. W. H. Lewis, chief ordnance officer, were of great service with me, gallantly carrying orders all over the field. My aide-de-camp, Lieut. R. C. Andrews, had been sent by me to the rear to communicate with General Fagan and lost part of the fight. Lieut. S. R. Mebane had also been detached on important duty. Being short of staff officers a portion of the time, Lieut. W. Harris, of my escort, assisted. He and Lieutenant Barfield and the escort were of great service, carrying orders wherever needed. For the action of officers and men of particular commands I call attention to reports filed.

In closing this rough and hastily drawn report, written with all the inconveniences of picket duty around, I take great pleasure in acknowledging myself very greatly the debtor of Brigadier-General Marmaduke. I found him on the ground with an intelligent understanding of the enemy's strength and position. In the formation of the line of battle, in its plan and conduct, I consulted with him freely and with great advantage. At my request he passed from the right down to the left of the entire line, cheering and encouraging by his presence and bright example. General Cabell managed his brigade with great skill, carrying it most successfully through a very exposed position into the fight. The brigade commanders of Maxey's division—Col. Charles De Morse, Twenty-ninth Texas Cavalry, and Col. Tandy Walker, First Choctaw and Chickasaw Regiment—for their skill, gallantry, and daring in conducting their commands into the fight successfully through such difficulties, and those who assisted, deserve great credit. The Texas brigade did its whole duty gloriously, fighting as Texans know how to fight. Of the Choctaw brigade I have already spoken.

The substantial fruits of the victory are a 4-gun battery of artillery and about 170 wagons and teams saved, about 30 wagons destroyed, between 600 and 700 killed and wounded, over 100 prisoners, and the force that fought us demoralized; but above all, the splendid effect on our men.

In making this report I omitted to say in the proper place that the troops were fought dismounted, only a sufficiency being left mounted to cover the flank and act as a guard on the Camden road in rear. I respectfully refer to the accompanying reports filed. It should be borne in mind that all these nominal divisions were small; were dismounted for action, and one-fourth consumed in holding horses. I believe that not more than 1,800 were engaged at any time.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. B. MAXEY,
Brigadier-General.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Ark., in Camp.

Since writing the above I received to-day (April 24) the report of Brigadier-General Marmaduke, accompanied by the report of Col. Colton Greene, commanding brigade. Said reports are herewith respectfully forwarded.

S. B. M.

Casualties reported.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Aggregate.
Cabell's division:				
Cabell's brigade	6	35	7	48
Crawford's brigade	2	7	.....	9
Maxey's division:				
Gano's brigade	3	28	3	34
Walker's Choctaw brigade	4	7	.....	11
Greene's brigade	2	11	.....	13
Total	17	88	10	115

To this should be added the losses from other commands not reported, but which will not swell the list exceeding 30.

S. B. MAXEY,
Brigadier-General.

ADDENDA.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. HDQRS. DIST. OF INDIAN TERRITORY, *Fort Towson, C. N., May* 9, 1864.

The brigadier-general commanding takes this earliest occasion upon his return to the district to announce his unqualified approval of the conduct of the division he had the honor to command in the recent campaign in Arkansas. A campaign more stupendous in proportions than any ever heretofore inaugurated by the enemy in the Trans-Mississippi Department opened last month. The design was no less than to hold, occupy, and possess the whole of the Red River Valley, with its untold resources. An immense column moved through Louisiana, another through Arkansas. Everywhere the

enemy was met, and everywhere our arms were victorious. The campaign has been shivered like a crushed vase. The troops from this district were ordered to return, for the reasons set forth in the accompanying letter from the general commanding, Your action has been glorious. You have made yourselves a name in history. While the enemy's columns are seeking safety in flight let us not lie supinely and spend our time in idle rejoicings. We have now work in our own territory to do. Let us buckle on our armor and be ready at all times and at any moment to move in full force, day or night, ready and willing and fully able to drive every foe from the country it is our special duty to defend and protect. Hardships we have already endured. We can do so again. If we cannot go as well prepared as we would like, let us go uncomplainingly with what we have. I call upon all to come up to the work. Such assistance as commissaries and quartermasters need citizens should cheerfully give. I publish for the information of all concerned the following order and letter of General E. Kirby Smith, commanding this department. Let us not lose his good opinion. Let all Indian troops emulate the glorious example of the Choctaw brigade.

S. B. MAXEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF ARKANSAS,
Camden, April 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. B. MAXEY,
Commanding District of Indian Territory:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to say that he relieves you and your command from duty with this army, because of the imperative necessity which calls you and them to the defense of the Indian Territory. He desires you to express to the Choctaw brigade his admiration of their courage and devotion to our cause in coming voluntarily out of their own country to the assistance of Major-General Price. These qualities this brigade has exhibited in a high degree. Its steady gallantry under the severe cannonade at Prairie D'Ane and dashing charge in the battle of Poison Spring entitles the brigade to the gratitude of the Government. Its achievements in this campaign will adorn the brightest pages in the national history of the Choctaws. He can now more confidently than ever rely upon your ability and the brave troops under your command to repel any threatened invasion of your district.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

GEO. WILLIAMSON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF ARKANSAS,
Camden, Ark., April 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. S. B. Maxey, with Walker's Choctaw and Gano's brigades, is relieved from duty in the Army of Arkansas and will return without delay to the Indian Territory. The commanding general expresses his high approbation of the gallantry of Brig. Gen.

S. B. Maxey and his command, and takes pleasure in acknowledging their valuable services in the battle of Poison Spring and in the operations of Prairie D'Ane and around Camden.

By command of Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith :

GEO. WILLIAMSON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 76.

Report of Col. Charles De Morse, Twenty-ninth Texas Cavalry, commanding Gano's brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HDQRS. TEXAS BRIGADE, MAXEY'S DIVISION,
Picket Camp, April 21, 1864.

CAPTAIN : I have to report that at 7 a. m. on Monday, the 18th instant, I moved the brigade, in obedience to order and in conjunction with the Choctaw brigade, to a position near the Poison Spring, contiguous to Lee's farm, on the upper road from Washington to Camden, and was there ordered to form on the left of Cabell's command, just then beginning to form, dismount the men, and leaving horse-holders and horses in the rear, to move forward on an elevation in front overlooking an old field. Detaching Captain Damron, of the Thirty-first, with 25 men, to scout a road leading from our left to our rear, I moved forward and halted, and soon had 1 man wounded by a minie-ball from the enemy, who were firing upon us. Keeping the men in line kneeling, I went around the left of the field immediately before us to seek a position for Krumbhaar's battery of light howitzers, attached to the brigade, but found none. I then received an order from General Maxey to move to the left of the field, leaving space enough between my command and the fence for Cabell's men to file between me and it. I moved as directed, and at the southwest corner of the fence around the field, upon the north of which the main road ran, I reformed the line in order and proceeded to move around parallel to the road upon which the enemy were formed and attack them in flank, in accordance with General Maxey's plan of operation. My extreme left was Krumbhaar's battery, upon which the Choctaw brigade was formed, to move concurrently with mine. Upon the left of the Choctaws were two companies of the Thirty-first Texas, of my brigade, mounted. In making this forward movement I found great difficulty in preserving alignment and connection. The ground was very irregular and brushy, and at one time Captain Krumbhaar sent me word that he could not move the battery any farther. He had no axes with him, but causing men to bend to the ground and hold saplings of considerable size he finally got forward. The irregularity of the ground was such that at one time, after crossing a ridge and turning round to my men, I found them marching involuntarily by the left flank. Reforming them and throwing forward skirmishers, I received notice before advancing far that a body of the enemy's cavalry was moving across the field near by. Moved rapidly onward and ordered Major Carroll, commanding the Twenty-ninth Texas Cavalry, to engage the enemy as soon as practicable. Getting up to the fence, which was attained by passing up a steep ascent, his skirmishers emptied their guns at the small body of cavalry in the field, setting some of the horses rider-

less. Dismounting from my horse I passed into a narrow field fronting me along the near line of fence around which my brigade was stationed. I passed over it to the skirmishers inside the line of fence nearest the enemy. I should state here that, although I had a general conception of where the main body of the enemy must be, I had not been able to see any of them, the small body of cavalry first fired at being a flank guard.

Ordering the skirmishers to take trees and advance through the hollow, I went back to the rear fence; ordered the battery into position on the crest of the field, which was a hill-top of regular elevation in the center; and ordering the entire line forward, it crossed the front fence, passed the hollow, and pushing up the ascent opposite, found itself in presence of the enemy and on his right flank, and opened a rapid fire upon him at a distance of 100 yards, which was promptly responded to. Prior to this Cabell's battery, in front of the enemy, had been directing a fire upon him, answered by his four guns. When my men opened the rattle of musketry became instantly very heavy. The enemy returned a fire which but for some advantages of our position must have been very destructive. My field and staff officers were fortunately all dismounted. A horse in rear of the line could not have escaped five minutes. My men went in with spirit, shouting and fighting undauntedly; but in a little time it became evident that we were outnumbered and that the fire upon us was heavier than we could bear, and under it a portion of my center and left fell back into the hollow, and some few into the field back of us, over which we had passed. I was in person on the left, and with the assistance of Captain Bell, assistant adjutant-general, halted these and rallied them, and just then Captain Krumbhaar, whose order from me had been to fire whenever he could see anything to fire at, concluding that it was a good time for his interposition, opened with his howitzers, and calculating correctly the range, dropped his shells most effectively in the very midst of the enemy and near their artillery. The effect was immediately discernible. Our men above gave a loud shout. I advanced the men from the hollow, who went up with a will. The enemy commenced falling back.

Greene's brigade, of Marmaduke's command, coming in upon my right, lent co-operation in the very moment when most effective, and from that forward our movement was onward, and the enemy soon in complete rout. The enemy's artillery falling back, and supported by successive stands made by their infantry upon each succeeding ridge, after taking off to the right of the road was captured by a mixed body of the advancing troops from my command and from the front.

The enemy's train of 200 wagons, laden with corn, bacon, stolen bed-quilts, women's and children's clothing, hogs, geese, and all the *et ceteras* of unscrupulous plunder, was found standing in the road, having only a few defenders remaining when my men got to it. These few were soon killed or scattered. In one of the wagons was a stand of colors, afterward removed by some one. From this forward my men, who were the first up to the train, pursued a half mile farther up the road and were then ordered to form a new line. The Choctaws, who, from their position flanking nearly to the enemy's rear, were better enabled to pursue them advantageously, continued keenly on their track and did splendid service, which it is not my province to detail. My men were much fatigued before getting to

the scene of action, and after the partial pursuit so entirely exhausted as to have disabled them from any active movement.

The enemy we fought were General Thayer's command, from Fort Smith and Roseville, including parts of thirteen regiments, and comprising 500 or 600 negroes—supposed to be in all 2,500 men. Probably 300 of these negroes were killed and 75 white Federals. But few prisoners were brought in by my command, because their work was in the heat of contest and not in pursuit. I carried into action—

	Men.
Krumbhaar's battery	30
29th Texas Cavalry, under Maj. J. A. Carroll	211
30th Texas Cavalry, under Lieut. Col. N. W. Battle	195
31st Texas Cavalry, under Maj. M. Looscan	175
Captain Welch's unattached company, Lieutenant Gano	44
Total	655

Part of the Twenty-ninth was on detached service; also, Captain Head's unattached company. A portion of each of the commands still in the Indian country. One-fourth of those in the field were holding horses and 27 acting as infirmary corps. Without an exception that I know of every officer in my brigade acted gallantly and nearly every man. I exhorted them to coolness and deliberate aim before advancing, and the testimony of their immediate commanders is, that they had never before seen such shooting in action, the men firing as though hunting squirrels. Major Carroll, as usual, exerted himself to do the full duties of a commander. Lieutenant-Colonel Battle was forward in the advance. Major Looscan was prompt, active, and gallant. Captain Krumbhaar entirely cool, quick, and importantly useful. Captain Welch's unattached company, their captain being absent, was temporarily under control of Lieutenant-Colonel Battle. To Capt. M. L. Bell and Lieut. S. L. Anderson, of my staff, I am indebted for valuable services promptly rendered.

The killed and wounded of the brigade, as shown by recapitulation rendered heretofore, were as follows, viz: Killed, 3; wounded, 28; missing, 3; total, 34. Of these there were—

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.
29th Texas Cavalry	1	4
30th Texas Cavalry	1	15
31st Texas Cavalry	1	3
Captain Welch's company	.....	6
Krumbhaar's battery	.....	.....
Total	3	28

Major Davenport, of the Thirtieth, and Lieutenants Gano and Huffman, of Captain Welch's unattached company, were slightly wounded, and are included in the above list.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

CHARLES DE MORSE,

Col., Comdg. Tex. Brig., Maxey's Div., Troops of Ind. Ter.

Capt. T. P. OCHILTREE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 77.

Report of Col. Tandy Walker, commanding Second Indian Brigade, of engagement at Poison Spring.

HDQRS. SECOND INDIAN BRIG., *In the Field, April* 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: The following report of the action of this brigade in the engagement at Poison Spring on the 18th is respectfully submitted: In obedience to orders the brigade occupied the extreme left, and was composed of about 300 men of the First Regiment, under command of Lieut. Col. James Riley, and 380 men of the Second Regiment, under the command of Col. Simpson W. Folsom. Owing to the various movements of the troops on the right the brigade was very much delayed in getting into position, but finally got into line just in rear of the field near the train of the enemy. The enemy occupied a line between the field and his train, protected by a densely wooded ravine. Being in line I immediately ordered the brigade forward, but halted in the edge of the field on account of a report from a party of cavalry on my left that the enemy was moving upon my left flank, which report was confirmed by rapid firing on my left; but soon perceiving from the heavy firing on my right that the brigade there was being hotly engaged, I ordered my brigade to move rapidly across the field and charge the enemy and drive him from the woods on the ravine. The charge was made and the enemy driven from the ravine by a courage on the part of officers and men well becoming an army of veterans.

The enemy formed next at his wagon train, drawn up on the road which ran along the brow of a wooded hill, but was pressed so closely by this brigade that he soon fled across the road and in a direction up the road to the left, when the train fell into our hands, and soon a portion of his artillery, which my troops found concealed in a thicket near the train. I feared here that the train and its contents would prove a temptation too strong for these hungry, half-clothed Choctaws, but had no trouble in pressing them forward, for there was that in front and to the left more inviting to them than food or clothing—the blood of their despised enemy. They had met and routed the forces of General Thayer, the ravagers of their country, the despoilers of their homes, and the murderers of their women and children; and on they went, driving immediately by a second charge the enemy from a strong position, which he had taken behind the buildings to the left and near by the wagon train. The enemy retreating to the left threw my brigade in front, and, being encouraged by the capture of the artillery, they pursued them madly.

I deem it proper here to mention the name of Private Dickson Wallace, Captain Folsom's company, First Regiment, who in the pursuit was the first man to the artillery, and mounting astride one of the guns gave a whoop, which was followed by such a succession of whoops from his comrades as made the woods reverberate for miles around. Colonel Folsom, of the Second, and Lieutenant-Colonel Riley, of the First Regiment, were conspicuous for their good conduct and bravery. I regret to report the loss of Lieutenant Roebuck and 3 men killed and 4 men wounded of the Second Regiment, and 3 men wounded in the First Regiment; none missing.

TANDY WALKER,
Colonel, Commanding Second Indian Brigade.

Capt. TOM P. OCHILTREE, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 78.

Confederate Roll of Honor.

GENERAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 64. } *Richmond, Va., August* 10, 1864.

I. The following roll of honor is published, in accordance with paragraph I, General Orders, No. 131, 1863. It will be read to every regiment in the service at the first dress-parade after its receipt.

* * * * * * *

BATTLE OF JENKINS' FERRY.

MISSOURI.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry.

Capt. E. A. Pinnell, Co. D.
Capt. A. M. Curry, Co. G.
First Lieut. T. L. Johnson, Co. C.
Senior Second Lieut. James Hulsey, Co. E.
Junior Second Lieut. M. O. Roberts, Co. F.
Junior Second Lieut. T. B. Logan, Co. I.

Ninth Regiment of Infantry.

Private George E. Kirby, Company G.

Tenth Regiment of Infantry.

Private A. J. Hutchison, Co. E.
Private Ozias Denton, Co. F.
Private J. R. Adams, Co. G.
Private Stephen Crismon, Co. K.

Eleventh Regiment of Infantry.

Private W. H. Dodson,* Co. A.
Private Peter Black,* Co. B.
Private D. O. Daugherty, Co. C.
Private William Park, Co. D.
Sergt. Green B. Smith,* Co. F.
Private B. F. Mock, Co. G.
Private Thomas Conner,* Co. H.
Private Jacob S. Barnard,* Co. I.
Sergt. S. B. McBride, Co. K.

Company E on detached service.

Twelfth Regiment of Infantry.

Private J. W. Kilgore, Co. A.
Sergt. James Hawkins, Co. B.
Private H. K. Taylor, Co. C.
Sergt. George Hirsch, Co. D.
Private John E. Morris, Co. E.
Sergt. James Lincycomb, Co. F.
Private M. Gibson, Co. G.
Sergt. William Kemp, Co. H.
Sergt. A. J. Hinkle, Co. I.
Private N. C. Foster, Co. K.

Sixteenth Regiment of Infantry.

Private Loyed T. Stephenson,* Co. C.
Private D. P. Neel,* Co. F.
Private William Tyree, Co. I.
Private W. L. Jackson, Co. K.

Other companies declined selecting.

Ninth Battalion of Sharpshooters.

Private W. B. McElwee, Co. A.
Sergt. H. B. Stiles, Co. B.
Private W. Clay Green, Co. C.
Private John King, Co. D.

Lesueur's Battery.

Corpl. Jefferson H. Gillespie.

By order:

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

* Killed in action.

MARCH 24 and 27, 1864.—Skirmish (24th) at Oil Trough Bottom and skirmish (27th) near Cross-Roads, Ark.

Report of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Batesville, Ark., March 31, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that a detachment of 200 men, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, sent out on 24th instant under command of Capt. A. B. Kauffman, have just returned and report that on the 26th [27th] instant they encountered a band of guerrillas, nearly all of whom were Missourians, at the mouth of Devil's Fork of Red River, and killed 19 out of 25. These vagabonds were rejoicing over a victory they claimed to have had over a Captain Hinkle and a body of Federal cavalry from Little Rock, stating Hinkle had captured 2 of their men whom they rescued, killing 9 of the Federal party.

No prisoners were taken from their party, all refusing to surrender and fighting desperately to the last. One man wounded on our side, and 4 horses disabled.

On the 24th instant 25 men of Second Arkansas Cavalry charged and routed 40 men of the enemy under Capt. George Rutherford in Oil Trough Bottom, killing Captain McGuffin and 3 others, capturing 2, and putting the rest to flight. Scarcely a day passes that some of the numerous scouting parties I keep out do not report some of the enemy killed or captured.

My whole list of killed of the enemy's force now is 286, including guerrillas and Confederates. I have in prison 8 Confederate captains and 6 lieutenants, besides a large number of enlisted men. If the same rate of destruction continues I cannot at present see how the enemy can remain in this part of the country much longer. If my horses were only in fair condition I would rid this portion of the department of every armed rebel in it.

I have refused overtures from General McRae to exchange prisoners with him. He claims to have about 100 Federal soldiers and officers in Woodruff County, captured at Hopefield, Helena, Clarendon, and Devall's Bluff. I refused treating with him unless he recognized the 4 men of the Fourth Regiment Arkansas Infantry as prisoners of war and not as deserters. My correspondence on that subject is forwarded to your headquarters. I have an inclination to go down and find McRae and have him move his headquarters across White River, but his present location is not exactly in my district; but if the major-general commanding will not deem me as encroaching on the territory of others of his commanders I shall be pleased to take an excursion after these swamp chivalry and clean them out.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Col. First Regt. Nebraska Cav., Comdg. Dist,

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Arkansas.

MARCH 24–31, 1864.—Expedition from Batesville to Coon Creek, Devil's Fork of Red River, &c., and skirmish (27th) near Cross-Roads, Ark.

*Report of Capt. Albert B. Kauffman, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.**

CAMP STEELE, *Batesville, Ark., April* 1, 1864.

SIR: In pursuance of instructions from regimental headquarters Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, March 23, 1864, I took command of a detachment of 200 men and 6 officers to accomplish certain purposes therein expressed.

March 24, 8 *a. m.*—I left Batesville with command, fording White River at Ruddle's Ford. From thence I pursued a westerly direction to near the mouth of Wolf Bayou, crossing Wolf Bayou, thence in the same direction across to and up Briar Creek, some 4 miles. At this point I discovered fresh signs of horsemen. At a house near by I learned that Britewell, with a command of about 50 men (rebel), had passed down the creek some two hours previous, the men giving out as they passed they were going to the swamps. As my horses had but little feed for the last forty-eight hours, I considered it imprudent to follow with uncertain results. Leaving Briar Creek at this point I intended to move in a westerly direction across to Coon Creek, distance about 8 miles, where I expected to find forage, but just on rising the mountain from Briar my guides lost the trail, and turning off to the left led me in a southerly direction. Discovering soon their error, I sent one of them back to discover the trail, but returned without being able to find it. Proceeding on the route south-southwest, over a mountainous and broken country, some 7 miles, I found myself at Dr. Martin's, near the head of Wolf Bayou, some 8 miles out of my direction. From Dr. Martin's I proceeded in a northwest direction 8 miles to Johnson's, on Coon Creek. From Johnson's the road passes over a high and abrupt ridge for 2½ miles, descending on Coon Creek at McCarle's, where I arrived at 7 p. m. and camped, having marched since morning 34 miles. I here found plenty of corn and fodder for my command. I also found four sets of Government mule harness in his possession which he had hid in the mountains in a turkey-pen, being part of the gears captured by Rutherford from Captain Castle. McCarle has a good mill which grinds for Richwoods and neighborhood. Weather cloudy, and rain during the night.

March 25, 2 *p. m.*—Marched in a northwesterly direction 3 miles, and encamped on the mountain above Coon Creek. Sent a scout back some 10 miles to bring up two jaded animals abandoned on the road the day before. The scout returned with one, the other not being able to travel. Near camp the men found a cave containing some 300 pounds of ham and bacon, which they confiscated. Found corn and fodder at Hesse's for the horses.

March 26, 7 *a. m.*—Marched in a northwesterly direction 6 miles to Kemp's, near Richwoods. Found Kemp absent from home hiding out from the Federal troops. Captured his negro man attempting to escape with a horse; also Mr. Fullbright, formerly of Springfield, Mo., who attempted to escape on the approach of the troops. Kemp has seven loads of corn hid in the mountains one-half mile northeast of his house. Sent out scouts to the northwest and west; found Copeland's men (rebel) ranging through the country, but scattered.

*See also report of Colonel Livingston, p. 851.

From Kemp's pursued a southerly course 5 miles, when I discovered a fresh trail of a wagon crossing the road through the woods drawn by mules. Leaving the main road I pursued. In about 1 mile distance I came up with the wagon. It proved to be one of Brown's, of Richwoods. The wagon was loaded with corn, bacon, meal, bed clothing, two rifles, some powder and lead; in fact, a complete outfit for lying out. Learning from his negro man that he was endeavoring to escape into the brakes of Turkey Creek, and that Mr. Brown had preceded him some few hours by another route with some sixteen mules and horses, I confiscated the load, burnt the wagon, took the mules into service, and enlisted the negro, and pressed on in pursuit. After a circuitous march to the east some 7 miles, lost the trail. Marching south 2 miles farther I encamped near a field containing an abundance of fodder—corn I had carried on the horses from Kemp's. Marched during the day 22 miles.

March 27, 7 *a. m.*—Marched in a southerly direction to the crossing of Devil's Fork (Lockard's), 8 miles. About 1½ miles north of Lockard's on a branch is a grist-mill, and a little beyond on the mountain is a distillery. From Lockard's I marched west 3 miles, crossing the Devil's and Middle Forks of Red River to Mills' plantation. Here I found plenty of corn and fodder, also a blacksmith shop with plenty of coal. Had several horses shod and some shoes made. I learned that Captain Joslin, with 17 men, had passed east two days previous en route for McRae's rebel command; that Captain Hinkle (Federal), from Lewisburg, Conway County, Ark., was scouting about Sugar Loaf Springs and Quitman; that he had a brush with some bushwhackers, killing 1 and capturing 2. Leaving Mills', I crossed Red River, thence southeast 7 miles to Cross-Roads, learning here that a band of bushwhackers under Smith, numbering some 25 men, had pursued and attacked Hinkle's men, killing several and recapturing the 2 whom he had taken prisoners, and that they had but a short time passed through Cross-Roads traveling south toward the river. With this information I immediately pursued, the Second Squadron, under Lieutenant Gallagher, leading in the advance in the order of march, followed by the First Squadron, under Captain Weber. About 12 men, under Lieutenant Poole, constituted the advance guard, 100 yards interval from the head of the column. I instructed Lieutenant Poole to charge the bushwhackers on sight, and that his efforts would be immediately supported by the Second Squadron, under Lieutenant Gallagher. Pursuing their trail about 1½ miles brought the advance suddenly in sight of the enemy, who were occupying an old house in a hollow about 100 yards distant. Their horses were saddled, bridled, and tied to the fencing and trees about the house. They had no guards or pickets out, and evidently had not been long there. Lieutenant Poole with the advance charged them, as directed, fearlessly, followed by the Second and First Squadrons. The enemy, so completely surprised, were soon overwhelmed, routed, and killed, not more than 5 or 6 of their number escaping. Three prisoners were captured, 1 of them mortally wounded. I found among their effects many articles of clothing and equipments captured from Hinkle's men, and 2 of the prisoners captured were the same men who were recaptured from Hinkle. It growing late, I marched 1 mile east to Brewer's and encamped. In the engagement I had 1 man wounded (not seriously), 2 horses killed, and my own wounded. Marched 20 miles; found corn and fodder.

March 28, 8 *a. m.*—Had the 2 prisoners captured yesterday tried this moring by a military commission. Found them guilty, on the affidavits of 2 citizens, of bushwhacking; had them shot to death in the field east of the camp. Marched back to Cross-Roads, and from thence to Kendall's plantation. Sent the Second Squadron, under Lieutenant Gallagher, back to Cross-Roads to assist several families of refugees who were desirous of accompanying the command to Batesville. Found plenty of corn and fodder at Kendall's. Fed the First Squadron and returned in the evening to Cross-Roads and camped. Sent a detachment 1½ miles north to Captain McMahan's premises (a notorious bushwhacker); burnt his house and effects.

March 29, 12 *m.*—Marched north 4 miles, thence east-northeast 8 miles, carrying corn for one day on the horses. Camped on the mountains on the head of Peter Creek, about 3 miles from the mouth of Coon Creek.

March 30, 7 *a. m.*—I took a detachment of 50 men and Lieutenant Poole and struck northeast to the mouth of Coon Creek. The main command, under Captain Weber, I ordered to march in an easterly direction toward Cedar Grove, and that I would with the detachment return and overtake them in the evening. The trail to the mouth of Coon Creek I found very obscure, leading over a very abrupt and broken country. My guides had no knowledge of the country. Striking the Devil's Fork one-half mile below the mouth of Coon Creek, I mistook the Devil's Fork for Coon Creek, and as I desired to move up the Beech Fork with a view of searching for Government mules which I thought might be hidden in the cañons of said creek, I moved down the Devil's Fork some 3 or 4 miles through an intricate country bounded on both sides of the river by high, rocky, and abrupt hills. Being satisfied that I must be on the Devil's Fork, I returned, and, passing up the creek from where I first struck it, found the mouth of Coon Creek and Beech Fork. I moved up Beech Fork some 5 or 6 miles to the first farm on the creek. The road for the first few miles crosses the creek some dozens of times. The hills bounding the creek are very abrupt and close in on either side. The valley of the creek is narrow, at places is covered with cane. At the house I captured 3 of Britewell's men, also found 1 musket, 1 double-barreled shotgun loaded with buckshot, 2 rifles and 1 six-shooter, 3 horses, evidently ready for service, and 1 Government mule in good condition. It growing late in the day I had not time to go farther up the creek. I struck across the mountains east to Coon Creek, distance about 3 miles. Leaving Coon Creek by a trail up the mountains I marched in a southeasterly direction some 6 miles, when I struck the trail of the main command, which I pursued some 10 miles to camp, at McBride's. Found corn and some fodder at McBride's, about sufficient to feed the command. Could hear of no other corn in this neighborhood.

March 31, 7 *a. m.*—Marched in the direction of Batesville. Was much delayed in consequence of the refugees' oxen giving out. When near Ruddle's Ford sent the refugees around to the ferry, and with the command forded the river and arrived at Batesville at about 5 p. m. Distance scouted over about 130 miles, and horses in better condition than when I left. I would respectfully call your attention to the officers and men of my command for their zealous performance of duty and hearty co-operation during the scout, and particularly Lieutenant Poole and his advance guard, for their unfaltering charge upon the bushwhackers at Cross-Roads. Inclosed you will find the

proceedings of the military commission on the trial of the two prisoners shot to death.*

The horses, arms, and equipments are now being turned over to the provost-marshal, but is not yet completed. Returns will be made out as soon as completed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. KAUFFMAN,
Captain Eleventh Missouri Cav. Vols., Comdg. Scout.

Lieut. A. J. NEWBY,
Adjutant Eleventh Missouri Cav. Vols.

MARCH 25, 1864.—Skirmish near White River, Ark.

Report of Capt. Albert A. Irwin, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HDQRS. DETACHMENT SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
Batesville, Ark., March 26, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make to you the following report of a scout under my command, numbering 30 men, that started on the morning of the 25th in search of Captain Rutherford's rebel command:

After arriving at Sulphur Rock I ascertained the whereabouts of the enemy, and at once continued the pursuit in the direction of White River. After arriving at the river I found the enemy had crossed a short time ahead of me. I at once, at Magnes' Landing, crossed the river and resumed the pursuit, and after marching in a southeasterly direction I found the enemy, 40 strong, halted on a hillside in a grove of white oak, engaged in feeding their horses and resting. I immediately ordered my command to charge, and after a sharp skirmish of about a quarter of an hour, succeeded in routing the enemy, killing 4 men, capturing 2 more, 1 of them wounded, and releasing 3 Union men whom the rebels had captured and kept under guard. We also captured several horses, stand of arms, &c., which I will turn over to the provost-marshal. After pursuing the enemy several miles I concluded to return, and reached this place at 7.30 p. m., without losing a man or having any wounded.

I have the honor to remain, yours, respectfully,

ALBERT A. IRWIN,
Captain Company B, Second Arkansas Cav. Volunteers.

Col. R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Comdg. Dist. of Northeastern Arkansas, Batesville, Ark.

MARCH 25-26, 1864.—Scout from Batesville to Fairview, Ark.

Report of Capt. Edward Lawler, First Nebraska Cavalry.

BATESVILLE, *March* 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report: In compliance with orders from district headquarters, I left Batesville

* Proceedings of Commission omitted.

with a detachment of First Nebraska and Eleventh Missouri Cavalry March 25, moving out on Smithville road 10 miles. Ascertained the enemy had been in that vicinity the day previous and had moved toward Sulphur Rock. I at once struck across the country toward Sulphur Rock, but hearing they had left there at 9 o'clock that morning, I proceeded at once toward Magnes' Landing. They had crossed some five hours before and were being closely pursued by a detachment of the Second Arkansas Cavalry. I at once crossed White River and marched until 8 p. m., camping for the night 5 miles from the river. Next morning, not being able to learn in what direction he had moved, I proceeded southwest, striking the Little Rock and Batesville road 3 miles from Fairview. Not being able to ascertain anything of their whereabouts in Fairview, I struck toward Batesville, arriving at 5 p. m.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

EDWD. LAWLER,
Captain, First Nebraska Cavalry, Comdg. Detachment.

Capt. H. C. Fillebrown,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Northeastern Arkansas.

MARCH 27, 1864.—Affair in Deepwater Township, Mo.

Report of Capt. Joseph H. Little, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Germantown, Mo., *March* 31, 1864.

Sir: For the information of the general commanding the District of Central Missouri, I have the honor to transmit, through your headquarters, the following report: About 10 p. m. on the 26th instant, Mr. Short, of Deepwater Township, Henry County, Mo., came to my headquarters and informed me that a party of bushwhackers were in his neighborhood menacing the citizens and committing the most outrageous acts of plunder, also threatening those who had enrolled for police duty at this station. I immediately dispatched [a detachment] under command of Sergt. John W. Barkley, of my company, in pursuit. One of the bushwhackers had in the mean time been severely wounded by Mr. Archibald Colson, a citizen of the neighborhood. This enabled Sergeant Barkley to overtake the band, who had taken their wounded confederate along with them. Barkley came upon them about 1 a. m. and ordered them to surrender; this their leader defiantly refused. They were strongly posted in the house of a citizen by the name of Matthew Dunn, against whom strong suspicion as an accomplice of the desperadoes rests. The leader gave his name as Capt. A. D. Jones, C. S. Army, and told Barkley that he was able to defend himself, at the same time opening fire on Barkley's detachment, which was promptly returned. A part of the band who had been plundering in the neighborhood now came dashing up with wild yells, firing rapidly and shouting to their comrades in the house to come out; this the leader attempted to do, but as he opened the door, a volley of bullets from Barkley's men warned him that if he attempted to rush out, certain death would be the result. He accordingly retreated and a fight was kept up during the night. Barkley not knowing what

force might attack him from the outside, sent to Johnstown for re-enforcements, which were promptly sent by Capt. Galen G. Norton, Second Colorado Volunteers, commanding at that station, but the bushwhackers had surrendered before they arrived. About daylight, finding that they could not escape, the leader proposed to surrender on condition that they should be treated as prisoners of war. Barkley told them that if they could prove themselves Confederate soldiers they should be treated as such, but if they were bushwhackers, they must take the consequences, assuring them that they should have a fair trial, whereupon they surrendered and were brought to camp. They were dressed in Federal overcoats and equipped with U. S. arms (Remington revolvers) and accouterments, with a quantity of ammunition. On being brought to camp they were placed under strict guard; food was given them, of which the leader partook almost voraciously; the other fellow, who called himself Ratliff, was sullen and refused to eat. Neither would give any truthful answer to any question asked them.

After they had been allowed to rest for about three hours, and the citizens whom they had robbed had collected and identified an amount of property which Sergeant Barkley had captured in their possession, I called on Captain Norton, Captain Deviny, Lieutenant, Atkinson, Lieutenant Page, and Sergt. John W. Barkley to try their case. The witnesses were duly sworn and identified the men as belonging to the band who had committed a number of outrages during the winter. Jones, the leader, made a shrewd defense until he found himself trapped, when he became bold and said that if the affair was to do over again he would have sent some of the squads to the lower regions before he went there; at any rate, he said that "if he had to die, he had paid for his life nine times." At 10 a. m., 27th, pursuant to the resolutions passed on (see evidence and sentence inclosed), I had them executed. They were allowed to write to their friends (submitting their letters for inspection), and were allowed to send their money and trinkets to their friends also. It was only at the last moment that they made themselves known. The leader proved to be the notorious Benton Gann, of La Fayette County, who has long commanded a marauding band on the border. The other was George Herold, of Cass County, one of Gann's men. They refused to give any useful information; said their trial had been fair and that they were not afraid to die, which boast they made good. They calmly walked to the grave, looked contemptuously on the detail assembled, said they were ready, quietly folded their arms, kneeled down, and met death with a dauntlessness worthy a better cause. The wounded man, who calls himself Jones, and who had received a number of buckshot in his body, I have sent to Clinton to be operated upon by Surgeon Hart. I think he will die. He is one of the most desperate men I have ever seen. He positively refuses to give any information; scowls on those who come near him. He ought to have been executed at once, but humanity revolts at the thought of executing any one so horribly mutilated as he is at present; but, if not ordered to the contrary, I shall execute him if he recovers.

All praise is due Mr. Archibald Colson, Mr. Hibler, and others, who fought the desperadoes until Sergeant Barkley's detachment arrived, and his success was attributed to the gallant conduct of Mr. Colson, who shot down the man Jones, who, being so severely wounded, impeded the flight of his comrades, thus enabling Sergeant Barkley to overtake and capture them. Sergeant Barkley deserves

the highest praise for the gallant manner in which he conducted the affair. Such men are justly entitled to the highest credit, and should be promoted for gallantry. This achievement is one among the many acts of skill and bravery exhibited by Sergeant Barkley since he has been a member of my company. I would respectfully suggest that as testimonials of their bravery Sergeant Barkley and Mr. Colson receive each a revolver from those captured from Gann and party. The highest praise is due the loyal citizens of Deepwater Township for their assistance in ferreting out these lawless bands. Mr. Short, who reported on the marauders on the 26th instant, deserves great credit. The trial of Gann and Herold was informal, but was resorted to to obtain the facts in the case. Please find the evidence inclosed.*

I have the honor to remain, yours, respectfully,

J. H. LITTLE,
Captain Company E, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Colonel MCFERRAN,
First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

MARCH 27–31, 1864.—Scout from Little Rock to Benton, Ark.

Report of Capt. E. H. Vance, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *March* 31, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your orders, I left Little Rock at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning; took the left-hand road 4 miles west of this place, and then took the right about 8 miles, and took breakfast at Mr. Lewis' house, some 12 miles from Little Rock. We then went in by Brown's tannery; half mile west of the latter place we came in sight of two bushwhackers. The advance guard made an effort to overhaul them, but failed to get them. One of them was run so close that he dropped his gun, which our boys got. We then went to George Elrod's place, and from there to Benton, at which place we arrived at 1.30 o'clock on Sunday evening. We here learned that Captain Bunner had a brush with some guerrillas. We stopped at Benton for the night. On Monday morning we traveled down on the east side of the Saline River to Steele's Mill, where our advance came in sight of some guerrillas, 200 yards distant. They endeavored to overtake them, but again failed. We then continued down the river for 15 miles, and then turned east and stopped for the night at Alexander Nall's place, a rebel lieutenant. Our picket fired at some one approaching our camp in the night. Two rebels were seen and chased by our boys in the morning.

On my way down I learned from William B. Young and William Sterinan that there was a set of rebel guerrillas stealing cotton in the neighborhood, who were pressing wagons and hauling stolen cotton to Benton, and getting it hauled from there to Little Rock. They pressed Mr. Sweeden's son and Joseph Pretter and Mrs. Finley's team to haul cotton from William Swappord's to Samuel Steele's house, where two bales remain. Mr. Young states that Mr. Sweeden's son informed Young that the cotton was taken from William Swappord, a citizen of Saline County, being 18 miles below Benton, and hauled it to Mrs. Sarah Miller's; this was on the 18th of March. On

* Not found.

the 20th, two days after, Mrs. Olivia McAdo, Mrs. Sue Thompson, Mrs. Jane Elrod, and Miss Bethena Wiley came to Mrs. Miller's and took two bales off, and Mrs. McAdo and Miss Bethena Wiley came to Little Rock with one bale of the cotton; the balance was thrown off in the woods or concealed. On Sunday last Mrs. McAdo, Mrs. Sue Thompson, Miss Bethena Wiley, Miss Fanny Lee, and Mrs. Thomas Glidewell came in with the remainder of the cotton. On learning that these ladies would probably be back on Tuesday night, and thinking that probably the guerrillas would be there to get the news, &c., I returned to Benton and arrested three of the ladies engaged in hauling the cotton, and I was not mistaken; the bushwhackers made a desperate rally to get the captured wagon and their fair friends, but they failed to get either. The goods are now in my possession, and subject to your order. From Benton we returned to Little Rock.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E. H. VANCE,
Captain, Fourth Arkansas Cavalry, Comdg. Scout.

Brig. Gen. N. KIMBALL.

MARCH 29–APRIL 1, 1864.—Scouts from Bellefonte, Ark.

Report of Maj. James A. Melton, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 1, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the return to this encampment of Captain O'Brien, of my command, sent on a reconnaissance day before yesterday, with 50 men, as per information sent to you in my communication of that date. Captain O'Brien went down as far as Burrowsville, by Old Lebanon, and crossing Buffalo at the mouth of Central Big Creek, passed on this side of the river and arrived this evening, having on the way reported the result of his reconnaissance to Major Murphy, at Yellville. Captain O'Brien reports the enemy divided, Relliford, with 300 men, at Sylamore; McRae's old command at Richwoods, 500; Love, Sissell, and Cordwell around Old Lebanon with 75 men, poorly armed. Of these 4 were killed by Captain O'Brien's command. I have also to report two scouts, both under Sergeant Tramel, of G Company, of this regiment. First, on the 29th, the sergeant had with him 6 men and ran into a camp of 15 bushwhackers; 4 of these latter were killed, the balance flew. Second, the same sergeant reported to-day from another scout, wherein out of a party of 10 guerrillas he met, 8 were killed, 1 wounded, the other escaped. Tramel had with him 20 men. He captured 3 and killed 2 of the enemy's horses. The arms he captured he gave them on the spot to Union men who were then under his protection. The detachment of this regiment sent to Batesville is now within striking distance, and will report to-morrow. I will await your decision upon this report before I attempt any movement. I feel confident that I can hold the country against all the forces the rebels can muster below here with my six complete companies.

I am, general, &c.,

JAMES A. MELTON,
Major, Commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Comdg. District of Southwest Missouri.

MARCH 29 and APRIL 4–5, 1864.—Skirmishes at Roseville, Ark.

Reports of Col. William R. Judson, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, commanding District of the Frontier.

FORT SMITH, ARK., *April* 4, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 29th ultimo a party of rebels attacked our forces at Roseville, 45 miles from here. We drove them from the town, not, however, before they had succeeded in burning 133 bales of Government cotton. Another attack was made on the town this morning by a force estimated at between 400 and 500. We lost 2 killed and 8 wounded. The rebels lost 6 killed and 20 wounded. My force at Roseville amounts to about 120 men. I have sent 25 men, all the cavalry with which I can re-enforce them. I will be able to hold the post of Roseville. Additional troops, in my opinion, are necessary to hold this country immediately.

W. R. JUDSON,
Colonel, Commanding District of the Frontier.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL,
Little Rock.

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HDQRS. DIST. OF THE FRONTIER, DEPT. OF ARKANSAS,
Fort Smith, Ark., April 7, 1864.

GENERAL: There appears to be a movement north. Two hundred Missourians crossed the river 20 miles below here yesterday. At Roseville, 45 miles below, are 300 bales Government cotton. I have some troops protecting it. Guerrillas attacking them daily; have lost 4 men killed and 8 wounded. Enemy's loss 8 killed, 15 wounded. They destroyed 130 bales cotton and 2 gins. I have pressed all citizen teams, and sent all Government teams to move cotton to this place. Your teams shall return without fail; have to go to same place for forage. I shall be obliged to send an additional escort with train. Cannot you spare some troops from your district?

W. R. JUDSON,
Colonel, Commanding District.

General SANBORN,
Springfield, Mo.

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FORT SMITH, *April* 10, 1864.

GENERAL: Last Sunday 800 rebels, under Colonel Battle, of Gano's division, Texas and Missouri troops, came within 15 miles of Roseville, and divided into two parties. One of 400 attacked Roseville on Monday, where troops were guarding cotton. Loss, 4 men killed and 10 wounded. Rebel loss, 10 killed and 15 wounded; 1 major and 1 lieutenant among the number. Will hold the place. At Clarksville, for the last month, there has been skirmishing. Our loss, 5 killed and 8 wounded. Four hundred rebels, 15 miles from Clarksville, yesterday ordered troops to barricade the roads, take possession of the houses, make loopholes for musketry, and hold the place at all hazards. Have pressed teams to move Government cotton from Roseville to this place. Will use my cavalry with citizen rangers,

and drive the enemy from the country. Have mounted some guns on the fortifications, and have no fears of this place. You will see that re-enforcements are necessary to reoccupy the country south of here, and have appointed a quartermaster, and authorized him to purchase horses and mules. I want your concurrence. I can make out two good teams on Monday. Don't allow General Blunt's commissary, of Kansas Department, to control, as his quartermaster does, or we will be starved out. Have not a team to procure fuel. Colonel Lynde is on the way, at Fort Scott, Kans. This having the garrison used by the Kansas Department is simply a nuisance. Send re-enforcements if you possibly can.

W. R. JUDSON,
Comdg. Frontier District of Arkansas.

General KIMBALL.

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HDQRS. DIST. OF THE FRONTIER, DEPT. OF ARKANSAS,
Fort Smith, Ark., April 15, 1864.

SIR: The cotton will soon be out of the way. Your teams will be sent up. I am hard pressed for transportation. The guerrillas and bushwhackers thick. Have not sufficient force to punish them. Expect Colonel Lynde with his regiment. Have you heard anything from him? After the Roseville fight I sent Surgeon Fairchild, with an escort of 25 men, to that point. They were attacked by 200 men. Loss, wounded and prisoners, 12 men and the surgeon; were brutally murdered, stripped, and bodies mutilated. In what direction is your force moving? I will do with pleasure all I can for the doctor.

Your obedient servant,

W. R. JUDSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

General SANBORN,
Springfield, Mo.

MARCH 30, 1864.—Affair near Greenton, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U.S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. James B. Moore, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS CENTRAL DISTRICT OF MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, April 3, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 28th [29th] ultimo Captain Moore, First Missouri State Militia, with a small scouting party, followed a trail of a small band of bushwhackers for 5 miles on

foot; near Greenton came up with and attacked them, killing James H. Waller and wounding one other of the band. Waller was one of Blunt's men; was present when he attempted to rescue the prisoner, Otho Hinton, at Lexington on the night of the 22d February, and participated in the murder of Mockabee and Sanders at the residence of Arthur G. Young the same night.

This makes the tenth of Blunt's band of 20 that was in La Fayette County about that time that have been killed by scouting parties from Colonel McFerran's regiment, the First Missouri State Militia, in six weeks. The energy with which the troops of this command are scouting the country is unequaled by any that I have heretofore had the honor to command. The results are small, though important to the country.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. James B. Moore, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

WELLINGTON STATION, MO., *April* 1, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report: On the 29th, I was ordered on a scout with 20 men from my company, with orders to scout the brush on Davis as far up as Hopewell, which I did without finding any enemy. On the 30th, while scouting the brush southwest of Greenton, I struck a trail, following it until I came to a house at the edge of the timber. I inquired of the folks if any person had been there. The folks said not. I asked them what those tracks meant that I had followed for at least 3 miles. They told me that it had been loose horses. I asked the lady of the house where her husband was. She told me that he was in the Southern army. I started on the trail, dismounting Nos. 1 and 3 of the command and put them on the trail. I trailed them some 3 miles through the thickest kind of brush before we came to their camp. When I ordered the boys to fire on them they had not seen any of us. We charged on them, killing 1 and wounding 2 others. Captured 1 horse, 2 navy revolvers, 1 field-glass, and several blankets. I then returned with the men to our horses and pursued them 4 or 5 miles, but was unable to get another fire at them.

In making my monthly return I stated that my men had killed a bushwhacker by the name of Bledsoe, but since I learn that it was the notorious Jim Waller that was killed. I find in what scouting I have done a great deal of sympathy among the citizens for the bushwhacker.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. B. MOORE,
Capt. Co. F, First Cav., Missouri State Militia.

[Col. JAMES MCFERRAN.]

APRIL 1, 1864.—Action at Fitzhugh's Woods, near Augusta, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Christopher C. Andrews, Third Minnesota Infantry, commanding expedition.

No. 2.—Maj. Everett W. Foster, Third Minnesota Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Christopher C. Andrews, Third Minnesota Infantry, commanding expedition.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF LITTLE ROCK,
Saturday Evening, April 2, 1864.

GENERAL: In compliance with General Orders, No. 169, War Department, October 27, 1862, I have the honor to report the result of an engagement at Fitzhugh's woods, 6 miles above Augusta, on White River, with the forces under Brigadier-General McRae. On Wednesday afternoon last, March 30, at 4.30 p. m., I received orders from Brigadier-General Kimball to proceed on an expedition up White River. At 7 o'clock that evening I left Little Rock with a detachment of the Third Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry (veterans), Maj. E. W. Foster commanding, consisting of Companies B, C, E, G, H, and I, numbering 186, and proceeded to Devall's Bluff by railroad. We reached there at 4.20 the next morning, and found the steamer Dove, Captain Erwin, in readiness to move. A detachment from the Eighth Missouri Cavalry at that post, numbering 45 men, under command of Capt. L. J. Matthews, reported to me on the boat at 6.20, and we immediately put off up the river. The gun-boat Covington proceeded with us, by the mutual wish of the captain of the transport and of Lieut. G. P. Lord, commanding the gun-boat. After getting some distance up the river we took the precaution to bring on board and detain any persons lurking about the shore whom we suspected would carry intelligence into the country of our approach; and in this way I gained more or less valuable information, and also the services of a good guide.

We arrived at Gregory's Landing, Jackson County, at dusk, and having learned that one of the camps of McRae's men was 4 miles back of that landing, on Straight Lake, I ventured to move out there to surprise it. The evening was rainy and extremely dark, but my guides knew the road perfectly, and my patrols moved forward so carefully there could be no possibility of an ambush. Three miles from the river was a bayou (Cache) difficult even for cavalry to ford, but the detachment of cavalry crossed it without accident, and suddenly surrounded the farm-house near by and as quickly threw out pickets. The information received, however, was that the camp had been abandoned early that morning. The cavalry then recrossed the bayou, and we returned to the transport, arriving on board at 10 o'clock. I gave orders for my command to have breakfast by 5 o'clock next morning, and the transport moved on up to Augusta. At 5 o'clock, therefore, yesterday morning (April 1), we landed at Augusta, a small but pleasantly situated village, and immediately had it surrounded by pickets, and had citizens and colored men brought on board that I might ascertain the number and whereabouts of McRae's forces. I learned that for a few days past his

forces had been concentrating, that two or three days previously they had moved toward Jacksonport, that they had returned, and that the principal camp was at Antony's, said to be 7 miles distant on the Jacksonport road. I then ordered my small command to land, leaving a guard on board the transport, and proceeded up the Jacksonport road. It was about 6 o'clock when we moved from Augusta. We had scarcely got 1½ miles out of town when our advanced guard encountered a small party of the enemy, and pursued and charged them 2 miles, and captured 2 prisoners. Coming then to the forks of two roads the cavalry waited for the infantry to come up. It was at this point that we met Rutherford's company, and drove it into the woods on a road leading to the right. We then continued the march on the Jacksonport road, keeping out for some distance flankers and patrols.

At the bayou, some 6 miles from Augusta, our advanced guard came upon a small party of mounted men, who, after one shot being fired at them, turned and fled. At the next farm-house we reached, we learned that General McRae was one of the party. This fact I discovered very soon, and immediately ordered the cavalry detachment to pursue at their utmost speed, which was done. It appeared that he turned off the Jacksonport road toward McCoy's, one of his places of resort, to which place Captain Matthews pursued him. He, however, escaped.

Beyond Fitzhugh's we came upon one of their camps, which appeared to have been suddenly abandoned, and where, also, we found and appropriated, as far as we needed, a wagon-load of hams. We also gained some information at almost every farm-house concerning the movements and locality of McRae's forces. I had heard his forces estimated variously at from 500 to 1,500, many of them, however, being poorly armed; and I had learned at Augusta that he had from 400 to 600 men near Antony's. The farther, however, I advanced, the more his force in any one body appeared to diminish, and the less appeared to be the chance for a fair fight with them. After, therefore, reaching a point 12 miles above Augusta, and meeting no force, I determined to return to the transport.

After a rest, it being 12.30 o'clock, we started back. At 1.30 o'clock, as we passed the road leading to McCoy's, a party of men showed themselves in the road, and being, as I had reason to believe, a decoy to draw us into an ambuscade, I ordered that they should not be pursued. We arrived at Fitzhugh's, less than a mile from that road, and were resting when the enemy made his appearance from the direction of McCoy's, advancing in line in a field on our left, and commenced charging on us. I had a part of our infantry quickly moved against them, which checked them, and by a volley fire killed and dismounted a number of them. The same infantry force then charged on them, and, amid the loud shouts and cheers of our men, drove them back into the woods out of sight. I then increased our rear guard, resumed the march, and proceeded about 2 miles, when the enemy came upon us in much larger force, our first notice being his attack on our rear guard. The place can perhaps be best designated as Fitzhugh's woods, and was almost 500 yards north of a well-known bayou or swamp. On the east side of the road was a field of cultivated land on which there was a thin body of dead timber. West of the road was heavy timber with more or less dead logs lying about, but not much underbrush.

It was immediately apparent that the enemy had collected all his

forces and meditated our destruction. His lines having previously been deployed, moved up around us in good order but shouting loudly, and seemed almost to encircle us. I plainly saw, and every one in my command could see, that we were greatly outnumbered, but I had the most unfaltering confidence in the unflinching valor and superior soldiership of every officer and man of my small party, and I believed from the start we would come out victorious. Our line was immediately deployed as skirmishers, the men cautioned to take advantage of every shelter, and a strong company was held in reserve. The cavalry formed on the left and fought dismounted. The fighting commenced sharply, the enemy being within 200 yards of us, and the men on both sides uttering defiant shouts. Above all the clamor we could hear the loud exhortations of their chiefs urging on their men to a charge. They made an attempt, but were repulsed and charged on by us. The firing was the sharpest during the first half hour, and during this time my horse was shot under me. We could see, however, that every movement of the enemy was thwarted by the unerring fire of our sharpshooters. We were damaging and subduing him every minute. Still we were aware that we were fighting experienced and daring men, Rutherford's men especially being well known as cool fighters and good marksmen. They fought dismounted.

The fight had lasted an hour, when it was discovered that a part of the enemy's forces were moving around to our right at difficult range for us, with the evident purpose of intercepting our passage across the bayou. In order to defeat that purpose and to get a somewhat better position, and also to have the benefit of a well of water, which we were beginning to need, I determined to withdraw our line about 150 paces, where we could hold the bayou and also have the protection of a cluster of log buildings and some fences. The greater part of my force had withdrawn to this new position unperceived by the enemy. When he discovered that we had abandoned our first line, which we had stubbornly held during the hardest of the contest, he conjectured we were retreating, and rose up and came on with the utmost shouting and clamor. But our men, who were already in position calmly waiting their approach, poured forth a fire more damaging and deadly than they had yet suffered. From this moment they seemed to give up the fight. Yet leaders advanced, and, with language plainly heard by us, vainly endeavored to stimulate their men to a desperate attack. Two or three of their leaders were picked off by our men while making such brave endeavors. We held that position an hour and a half, during which time our men maintained a cool and effective skirmish fire.

The combat had now lasted two hours and a half, and the enemy was beaten. To guard, however, against any surprise at the bayou, the crossing being difficult and it appearing also that it had been the purpose of the enemy to do us an injury there, I caused a line of sharpshooters to be deployed, concealed on both flanks of the crossing of the bayou in the woods, to protect our crossing whenever we might choose to move. This was promptly attended to by Major Foster. Although the ford of the bayou is about 125 yards wide, and extremely difficult to cross in the vicinity of an enemy, we made the passage without any interference or obstacle, which is further evidence that he had been thoroughly whipped.

We then moved on in our march to the transport, a distance of 6 miles, the road passing through woods, by cross-roads and open

fields, where, if the enemy had dared, he might have chosen his position, knowing as he well did the country. But he did not venture near us again; and we proceeded into Augusta in perfect order, our colors flying, and the men singing, "Down with the traitor;" and arriving in front of the town we halted and gave three cheers for the stars and stripes. We then moved aboard the transport and started on our return, our object having in the main been accomplished. My loss was, in the infantry, 7 killed, 16 wounded, and 4 wounded and missing; in the cavalry, 1 killed and 1 (a recent recruit) missing. All of the wounded except 3 will be fit for duty in a few days. I cannot accurately judge of the enemy's loss, but am confident it exceeds 100 in killed and wounded, including the loss he sustained in his first ineffectual charge. I also captured from him 13 prisoners, including 1 commissioned officer and 1 sergeant. We also took a number of good horses and brought away several freedmen. The following is the list* of killed and wounded:

A few men were left as a guard on the transport, and some were used in guarding prisoners; so that the whole number of men I had engaged was only 180. The moral effect of this combat is greatly on our side, showing as it does that with a very small force we are able to defy the combined numbers of the enemy which has been left to hold sway in that fine region of country, and that he is liable to be struck from unexpected sources. The conduct of the officers and men of my command was eminently heroic and prudent. Their efficiency and skill were what I had reason to expect from accomplished and well-disciplined soldiers. Their emulous valor equaled the Spartan standard. The result of their hard-fought contest shows what a resource there is in courage and what power there is in discipline.

The place to which we marched is 168 miles from Little Rock, and we made the expedition and returned to this place and had resumed our ordinary duties here inside of three days.

I am obliged to the quartermaster's department for promptitude in furnishing transportation; also to the commanders of the gunboat and transport for their promptitude and assistance.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. ANDREWS,
Colonel Third Minnesota Vol. Infy., Comdg. Expedition.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

No. 2.

Report of Maj. Everett W. Foster, Third Minnesota Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRD MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Little Rock, Ark., April 3, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the part which the detachment of the Third Minnesota Volunteers, under my command, took in the recent expedition and action up the White River, under com-

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 8 enlisted men killed, 16 enlisted men wounded, and 5 enlisted men wounded and missing, all of the Third Minnesota, except 1 killed and 1 missing of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

mand of Col. C. C. Andrews, Third Minnesota Volunteers. I received orders from Colonel Andrews at 4.30 p. m., March 30, to be in readiness to march with four days' rations at 6 o'clock that evening, and at 7 o'clock I marched my command, six companies, Company B, commanded by Lieutenant Pierce; Company C, by Lieutenant Grummons; Company E, by Lieutenant Knight; Company G, by Captain Devereux; Company H, Lieutenant Misener; Company I, Captain Swan, 186 strong, to the ferry and immediately proceeded to railroad depot, where, by direction of the colonel, we embarked on cars, and at 9 p. m. left for Devall's Bluff. We reached the bluff at 4 o'clock next morning, and forthwith embarked on steamer Dove, and at 7 o'clock, together with a small force of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, proceeded up White River, reaching Gregory's Landing (which is 10 miles above Little Red and 100 miles above Devall's Bluff) about 8 p. m., when we disembarked and marched to the support of the cavalry toward Cache River, crossing where it was supposed McRae was camped. After marching 3 miles in the darkness and rain it was ascertained that McRae had left that country and gone toward Jacksonport. Upon getting this information we immediately returned to the boat and proceeded up the river to Augusta, where we arrived at 5.30 a. m., April 1, disembarked, and pushed without delay with 160 men all told into the country on the Jacksonport road, the cavalry in advance. My orders were to keep within supporting distance, which I did. At the crossing of the Cache River road, 4 miles from Augusta, I came up with the cavalry, which had been skimishing with the enemy for the last 2 miles, and here found them in force. The colonel ordered me to take three companies into the woods and engage them. I took Companies E, H, and I, and drove them before me about 1 mile and across a large cypress swamp. I afterward learned from a prisoner that the force I drove was the notorious Rutherford with about 150 men. At this time we joined the rest of the force, which came another route. The cavalry advanced and I followed, crossing the swamp and proceeding toward Jacksonport, the cavalry doing the skirmishing. We marched on to the Methodist church near Dr. Westmoreland's house, 12 miles from Augusta, where, by the colonel's orders, I halted my command while the cavalry scouted in advance. Finding no force of the enemy, they returned, and after a short rest started back for the boat. We had moved back about 2½ miles and halted to rest at Fitzhugh's farm-house, when we discovered a large force of mounted men charging down upon us on our right and rear. I immediately formed, and by Colonel Andrews' orders sent two companies to engage the enemy—Captain Swan, Company I, those in the road, and Lieutenant Misener, Company H, those on the right. They charged down through the open field with loud yells. I let them approach within 150 yards, then sent a volley of minie-balls into them, which caused them to cease their yelling and break to the rear for the woods with headlong speed. I followed a short distance and discovered we had inflicted a severe loss on them, and returned. Our cavalry having pushed on in advance, we did not follow up. Finding the enemy not disposed to come out of the woods, we marched on about 2½ miles to Fitzhugh's woods, when the enemy was again heard shooting and yelling and seen coming down through an old corn-field on the same flank as before. I immediately fixed bayonets and charged on at double-quick to meet him, coming up in line at about 200 yards from his force, which was, I should judge,

at least 300 strong, and gave him a volley before he opened. He immediately broke to the rear for the thick timber. At this instant, when we gave a shout to see the enemy broken, we were attacked by another and still larger force from the road we had just come up. The troops were immediately faced about and charged down into the woods in the face of a deadly fire from the enemy. While leading this charge the colonel's horse was killed under him. After gaining the heavy timber, we engaged the enemy as skirmishers in a combat which lasted two and a half hours, when I discovered that we were getting short of ammunition. I reported the fact to Colonel Andrews, who ordered me to withdraw gradually from the timber and occupy some farm buildings up the road toward Augusta and protect the crossing of the Cypress, about 2½ miles farther on, which was successfully accomplished. The cavalry passed through the swamp, the infantry following. We then formed on the opposite side and marched to Augusta, 6 miles, without further annoyance, bringing some 30 prisoners and a large number of contrabands which had been picked up during the day.

The following embraces a full list* of casualties in the regiment at the combat of Fitzhugh's woods. The loss of the enemy, as near as could be ascertained, was upward of 100, four times our own. Of these, several were known to be officers.

I am very proud to say that every man was perfectly cool during the entire engagement, and many instances of great daring and bravery occurred which are worthy of being particularly mentioned. Hardly a man escaped without some bullet mark through his clothing. I am especially obliged to Lieutenant Champlin, acting adjutant, and Sergeant-Major Ackers, Quartermaster Sergt. H. D. Pettibone, and First Sergt. C. D. Bevans (who, I lament to say, was killed); also First Sergt. James M. Moran, Company H, and, in short, to all the officers and men of the regiment, for their promptitude in obeying orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient,

E. W. FOSTER,
Major, Commanding Third Minnesota Volunteers.

Capt. JOHN PEETZ,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

APRIL 1, 1864.—Affair near Bloomfield, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

BLOOMFIELD, MO., *April* 2, 1864.

I sent out a squad of men under Captain Shibley yesterday. They came upon 3 guerrillas in the act of robbing a Union man's house; killed 1 of them and have brought the other 2 in as prisoners. One claims to be from Douglas County, Mo., the other from Illinois. Both say they belong to Kitchen. What shall I do with them?

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Colonel ROGERS,
Cape Girardeau.

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 7 enlisted men killed, 16 wounded, and 4 missing.

APRIL 1–10, 1864.—The Pearl River (Louisiana) Expedition.

Report of Maj. Martin M. Pulver, Twentieth Infantry, Corps d'Afrique.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Pike, April 21, 1864.

Maj. JOHN LEVERING,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Defenses of New Orleans:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of Major Pulver of the Pearl River expedition after the steamer Swaim. I would add that the major is entitled to all credit for the result of the expedition, which was achieved only by the most indomitable and unwavering perseverance and courage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ELIOT BRIDGMAN,
Colonel Twentieth Infantry, Corps d'Afrique.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Pike, La., April 1, 1864.

Major PULVER:

You will proceed, in command of Companies C, D, E, and F, Twentieth Infantry, Corps d'Afrique, on board the steamer Lizzie Davis, up West Pearl River as far as practicable, and bring off any lumber, brick, wood, boats, or other property belonging to rebels which may be useful to the U. S. Government, and destroy any of the above-named classes of property which cannot be moved, and which may be of service to the rebel army. You will especially take all negroes who can be of any service to the Government. You will also observe and report upon the character of the country with particular reference to its importance for military operations, returning as soon as the object of the expedition is accomplished.

E. BRIDGMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

In obedience to the above order I went on board the steamer Lizzie Davis at midnight of the 1st of April, in command of the above-named companies, numbering about 150 men in all, and proceeded up West Pearl River to within about 1 mile of Fletcher's Crossing, where we tied up for the night of the 2d. On the morning of the 3d, we proceeded on up the river as far as Homes' Bayou, which I found so thoroughly blocked up with driftwood and trees that had been cut in that it was useless to attempt to go through it. Prospects for doing serious damage to the enemies of our country in that direction looked extremely doubtful, as the inhabitants, what few there were, were very poor, and most of them deserters from the rebel army. It now being late in the day, and considering navigation farther up West Pearl extremely hazardous for a boat as large as the Lizzie Davis, I determined to turn my attention to something of more importance and in which I hoped to be more successful than I had been in the exploration of West Pearl River. I accordingly ordered the boat turned downstream, and tied up for the night about 1 mile below Homes' Bayou, at or near Indian Bayou. On the morning of the 4th, I landed three companies on Honey Island, and crossed over to East Pearl River, coming out just below the mouth of McCall's River, where I had previously heard the steamer J. D. Swaim was lying, having been run up there some two years ago. After some little difficulty I succeeded in obtaining possession of the ferry, the flat being at the time on the opposite side of the river.

After crossing most of my men, leaving but a small force under the command of a lieutenant on the island as picket, I proceeded up East Pearl to the mouth of McCall's River, where I found the aforesaid steamer J. D. Swaim, and although sunk to her guard, a much better prize than I had anticipated. We immediately commenced bailing and pumping the water out of her, and on the morning of the 5th, found that the prospects of getting her down the river were rather favorable than otherwise. Consequently, I sent a lieutenant with 10 men back to the Lizzie Davis, ordering them to proceed down West Pearl through Middle to East Pearl River, thence up East Pearl as far as practicable. But the captain of the Lizzie Davis (George Sprague) having died suddenly the night previous the lieutenant in command wisely concluded to descend West Pearl River to East Pearl Pass, that the captain's remains might be sent to the fort. At or about 12 m. of the 5th, finding the Swaim afloat and most of the water out of her, I determined to try and descend the river without steam (her machinery not being in order), and immediately cast off and floated down (there being a strong current) nicely for about 3 miles, when we were brought up on a bed of sunken logs, where we remained for fifty-six hours. While in this condition a messenger arrived from the Lizzie Davis, stating that she was lying in East Pearl, 2 miles above Gainesville, awaiting orders. As we were out of provisions, and had been for two days, except such as we foraged for, I sent a message to the lieutenant in command ordering him to send up what provisions he could spare, and then return to the fort for more. In the mean time we had worked almost incessantly trying to get the Swaim afloat, and had succeeded in moving her some 300 feet, when, it beginning to rain hard, we were obliged to suspend operations. On the morning of the 8th, there having been considerable rain, we were enabled to get her off, and had the satisfaction of tying up that night free from snags or sand-bars, of which we had crossed several during the day. On the morning of the 9th, we cast off our lines, and without much further trouble passed down the river to within 5 miles of Gainesville, where we tied up for the night alongside of the Lizzie Davis, which had been to the fort and returned. On the morning of the 10th, we dropped down to Gainesville, where the Lizzie Davis took us in tow and started for the fort, picking up on the way Companies A, G, and H, who had been sent to assist us, arriving at the fort about 10 o'clock on the morning of the 11th, having been out ten days.

I wish to say a word in favor of the officers and men under my command, and especially the officers who, during our severe trial in getting down the boat, and even when we were 55 miles from the fort without privisions and stuck fast on a bed of sunken logs, did not for an instant flag in their endeavors to get her off and make the expedition successful; and also of the officers of the Lizzie Davis, who did everything in their power to help us; and I cannot but think their presence in the river had a good effect upon the guerrillas, if there were any in the country, for had they attacked us they would have given us a good deal of trouble. I find the proceeds of the expedition to be, on returning, 64 contrabands and one steam-boat.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

MARTIN M. PULVER,

Maj. Twentieth Infantry, Corps d'Afrique, Comdg. Expdn.

APRIL 3, 1864.—Affair near Clarksville, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. Gideon M. Waugh, Second Arkansas Infantry (Union).

CLARKSVILLE, *April* 4, 1864.

I surprised a guerrilla's camp yesterday, killed 3, wounded 10, captured 19 horses, 5 Sharps carbines, 5 Enfield rifles, and lots of small-arms, blankets, and saddles. The captain was killed.

G. M. WAUGH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. E. D. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APRIL 5, 1864.—Skirmish at Whiteley's Mills, Ark.

Report of Maj. James A. Melton, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 10, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the 5th instant, a scout of this regiment numbering 50 men, under Captain Orr, Company C, and Lieutenant Bell, Company I, attacked the enemy under Sissell, Cooper, Patton, and not unlikely Green, all chiefs of guerrilla bands, concentrated to the number of 250 men at Whiteley's Mills, on the headwaters of Buffalo River.

The enemy had been warned of the approach of Captain Orr, and had formed to receive him. They were partly mounted and partly dismounted. Captain Orr dashed into their camp and twice broke their line of cavalry. After a fire of musketry of about two hours' duration, the ammunition being nearly exhausted, Captain Orr withdrew, with the loss of Privates John H. Murry, Company F, killed, and Obed W. Patty, Company I, missing. Private Gustavus Bishop, of Company C, was wounded. The man missing had his horse shot dead under him, and is probably a prisoner, if not killed. The loss of the enemy has not been ascertained, beyond 1 wounded. The same day a detachment of 15 men, under Sergeant ———, Company K, was sent out on a reconnaissance. The party, through some misunderstanding, divided into two squads, one of which (7 men in all) undertook to escort some refugee families they met within the line while the other squad moved in another direction. Those 7 men thought themselves comparatively secure, being but 3 or 4 miles from camp. At a distance of less than 2 miles from camp the unfortunate squad was charged and fired upon from the rear and Privates Simeon Meek, William E. White, Company F, and Charles A. Dilda, of Company I, were killed or wounded (and since died) before they were aware of danger. The rest made their way safe into camp.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. MELTON,
Major, Comdg. Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Comdg. District of Southwest Missouri.

APRIL 5-9, 1864.—Expedition from New Madrid, Mo., and skirmishes in the swamps of Little River, near Osceola, and on Pemiscot Bayou, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. John W. Rabb, Second Missouri Light Artillery.
No. 2.—Capt. Valentine Preuitt, First Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. John W. Rabb, Second Missouri Light Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
New Madrid, Mo., April 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report: During the last three weeks the guerrillas have committed numerous depredations upon the inhabitants of the adjacent counties of Mississippi, Dunklin, and Pemiscot, as also those of this county. The cavalry force at my disposal has, until quite lately, been so small, owing to the fact that a majority of them were on veteran furlough, as to preclude the possibility of my making any move which could reasonably be expected to be attended with success. Besides, the inhabitants of the country are nearly all strong secession sympathizers, and do not report until a day or two after they are robbed, and often not at all. The country is filled up with deserters from the Confederate army, some of the guerrilla bands being composed entirely of them. I managed to find the camps of some of these bands, and determined to make a vigorous effort to break them up. On the 5th instant I ordered Captain Preuitt to move with all the available force of the First Missouri Cavalry (report inclosed). With about 200 men of Companies H, I, and K, Second Missouri Artillery, I embarked on the steamer Silver Moon, at 11 p. m. of the 5th instant. At Barfield's Point, Mississippi County, Ark., I ordered Capt. W. C. F. Montgomery, Company H, Second Missouri Artillery, with 100 men, to disembark, and march directly back from the river to Chickasawha Settlement on Pemiscot Bayou. I landed with the remainder of the Second Missouri Artillery (about 100 in number) at Osceola, 20 miles below where Captain Montgomery had landed. At this point I learned that a gang of guerrillas had just robbed the town. I immediately took up the line of march for the Pemiscot Bayou, at a point about 10 miles below where Captain Montgomery would strike it. I found a few mounted guerrillas on the road several times during the day, some 5 or 6 of whom were killed; the others escaped. The road led through a swampy country, covered with thick cane and very heavy timber. The water averaged about 1 foot in depth, although at times the men were compelled to wade in it 3 feet deep. At dark we came to the first house, and I found that, after marching hard all day, we had made 12 miles. I there went into camp. A man living in the house, by the name of Mark Walker, informed me that, in common with all the inhabitants of that section, he was a rebel, and had a son in one of the guerrilla bands near there. From this man's conversation I inferred that I would be attacked at daylight the next morning. I immediately posted my pickets, and after the men had eaten supper, stationed Company K, Second Missouri Artillery, about 75 strong, under Lieutenant Winfrey, in and around the house. I then stationed Company I, Second Missouri

Artillery, about 25 strong, under Lieut. L. J. Phillips, about 50 yards from the house. I personally cautioned the pickets, and instructed the men how to act in the event of an attack. I took my place for the night with the men of Company I. Lieutenants Phillips and Orr, of the same company, were sleeping with their men by a log where there had been a fire. I cautioned the men against making a fire.

Shortly after it commenced raining and became very dark, the darkness and rain continuing without intermission all night. Having awakened about 3 o'clock in the morning, I held some conversation with Lieutenant Phillips, and then laid down again, with my head resting on the root of a tree. I had been in this position only about five minutes, when a man within a few feet of me demanded of me to surrender the entire command. I answered negatively, in rather rough language, upon which he immediately fired on me with a shotgun. I returned the fire with my revolver. At this the men sprang up with their arms, when the guerrillas, to the number of about 100, opened on us with shotguns and pistols, and as they were within 5 or 10 feet of us, we had no alternative but to fight, notwithstanding the great disadvantages under which we labored. The fight lasted some five minutes, when the rebels commenced to retreat. I then ordered my men to fall back to the house, after which the rebels came up and carried off their dead and wounded. I also removed mine to the house. I felt that as it was impossible to see 5 feet it would be folly for me to pursue them in the woods, and also felt confident that they would renew the attack at daybreak, but in this I was disappointed. I then buried Lieutenant Phillips, who was killed after being shot down three times, and left Sergeant Handy, who was mortally wounded, in the hands of the women of the house, who promised to bury him. I then started to join Captain Montgomery, carrying my wounded on litters. The road lay through a very bad swamp for about 6 miles, yet the men cheerfully bore the fatigue of carrying their wounded comrades, and think that it was the most laborious march I ever made. After proceeding in this way some 6 miles, I found some teams and pressed them to convey the wounded. Inclosed I send a list* of the killed and wounded. Of the loss of the enemy I can form no correct estimate. The ground was covered with blood, and a large number of guns and pistols were picked up in the morning.

I was joined by Captain Montgomery, with his command, on the evening of the 7th, and on the morning of the 8th we marched to a point a few miles above Barfield's Point, where we embarked on the steamer Darling, arriving at this post about 11 p. m., on the 8th. The wounded have been well cared for, and will in all probability recover. Captain Montgomery's command while detached had no general engagement; he lost no men either killed or wounded, but killed some 6 or 7 guerrillas.

I cannot speak too highly of the energy and perseverance of the men of my command, displayed on this fatiguing march, nor of the desperate courage with which they met and repelled a fierce night attack made by overwhelming numbers of confident desperadoes. The question may occur as how they managed to elude the pickets. This can only be answered by the fact that they were thoroughly

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 1 officer and 2 men killed, and 1 officer and 6 men wounded.

acquainted with every part of the ground, and it was so dark, and the rain falling in such torrents, that they could neither be seen or heard. One of the sentinels near me did not hear them until I received the summons to surrender. I suppose the attacking party to have been under the command of Colonel Clark, of the Seventh Missouri (Confederate) Cavalry.

I send you copies of several papers* captured by Captain Preuitt, on the dead body of the guerrilla Captain Williams. By these you will see about how many different commands they have in this section of country. I suppose all the parts of regiments and the various guerrilla bands will foot up about 1,000 men. I have been warned by rebel sympathizers, citizens of influence, that it is the intention of Colonels McGee, Kitchen, Clark, and Freeman to make a combined attack on this post; but this I do not fear, as with the command here I think I can repel any force which they can bring to bear. They may attack the town for plunder, but I give them the credit for better judgment than to make an attack on the fort. I think that the only way that these bands can be successfully operated against is to send out a heavy cavalry force from Cape Girardeau and Bloomfield, going down between Little River and the Saint Francis, at the same time a co-operating force of cavalry from this post to move down on this side of Little River. You will notice that one of the inclosed orders is dated at the Blue Cane. This is a dense canebrake, in the center of which is one of the rebel camps. They here have a store supplied with stolen goods, a distillery, several houses, and a large amount of stock. I think the restrictions on shipping goods to this section should be more severe, as I am led to believe that the rebels receive half of their supplies from professed good and loyal merchants.

The three companies of the First Missouri Cavalry stationed here are very poorly mounted. To be effective, they should have at least 50 new horses. The proper requisition was made some two months ago, but the Cavalry Bureau has failed to furnish them. I will send to Saint Louis on the first boat all the guerrilla prisoners that can be convicted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. RABB,
Major Second Missouri Artillery, Comdg. Post.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS EWING, Jr.,
Commanding District of Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Valentine Preuitt, First Missouri Cavalry.

NEW MADRID, MO., *April* 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you the particulars of a scout of Companies G, K, and M, of the First Missouri Cavalry, commanded by myself. Pursuant to orders received, I started upon the morning of the 6th instant; marched 45 miles; camped until daylight. About dark upon the 6th, my advance came upon two noted guerrillas, known as a part of Bulge Powell's gang. They were chased by

*Not found.

Sergt. J. E. Wright, Company G, and one of them killed, who proved to be the famous Luke Bussell. Next morning I took the line of march at daylight; crossed the swamp and Little River about noon, rested here awhile, then proceeded. After having marched one-quarter of a mile, I very suddenly came upon a squad of guerrillas, 25 in number. I charged and immediately routed them, killing 12 and taking 5 prisoners. I have reason to believe that some wounded escaped in the swamps. The evening of the 7th, I camped 5 miles from Hornersville. The morning of the 8th, took up the line of march, traveled 35 miles and camped at Clarkton. The morning of the 9th, started again, and arrived at camp early.

My loss was, in killed, none; 3 men wounded—Francis Lilly, Company M, Thomas Kelly, Company M, and George F. Hammond, Company K, very slightly. One man, formerly a resident in that country, deserted, taking his arms and leaving his arms [*sic*]. My men are deserving the greatest credit for their conduct in the engagement, as are all the officers engaged.

I have the honor, sir, to remain, your humble servant,

VALENTINE PREUITT,
Capt. Co. M., Comdg. 3d Battalion, First Missouri Cav. Vols.

Major RABB,
Commanding at New Madrid.

APRIL 6, 1864.—Affair at Prairie Du Rocher, Ill.

Report of Capt. Henry B. Milks, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

FARMINGTON, MO., *April* 9, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in accordance with orders received from you to go to Illinois to arrest certain guerrillas and horse thieves, I left Farmington on the 5th of April with 18 men and proceeded to Saint Genevieve, where I found the ferry-boat out of order. I sent some men up the river several miles where they found a flat-boat, which, after working all night on, we succeeded in crossing the river next morning. Immediately on landing I arrested Landon Green, a guerrilla, one of Hilderbrand's men. Proceeding 2 miles farther, at Carr's farm I arrested 3 other guerrillas. I then charged on Prairie Du Rocher, where I found the notorious John Hiley and his gang, who made for the bluffs in rear of the town, where they took a stand. After a short and spirited fight we drove them from the bluff, killing Hiley and 2 others. The balance fled, and knowing the country succeeded in making their escape. We had only 1 man wounded. On my way back to the river 1 of the prisoners attempting to escape was shot by the guard. I returned to Farmington on the 7th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. MILKS,
Capt., Third Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Lieutenant-Colonel HERDER,
Commanding Post, Pilot Knob, Mo.

ADDENDA.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT LOUIS DISTRICT,
Saint Louis, April 13, 1864.

Captain MILKS,
3d Cav., Mo. State Militia (through headquarters Pilot Knob, Mo.):

SIR: I have received your report of expedition to Prairie Du Rocher, on which you were sent by Lieutenant-Colonel Herder; it was highly successful, and you are entitled to great credit for it. I am applied to for explanation as to alleged outrages committed by the troops under your command at Prairie Du Rocher, and for return of the guns and horses alleged to have been taken by them there. Report at once on the subject.

THOMAS EWING, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

APRIL 6-7, 1864.—Skirmishes on the Arkansas River and near Prairie Grove, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *April* 9, 1864.

Colonel Judson, commanding District of Frontier, Department of Arkansas, telegraphs that 500 Missourians from the rebel army crossed the Arkansas on the 6th and 7th. We lost 6 men in skirmishing with them. Colonel Harrison lost 9 men killed, 20 miles from Fayetteville, night before last. Both officers make earnest applications for troops. I cannot spare them, and have fears that their forces may get into the State and do immense damage to the farming interests. I can and will send some force to attack them in a few days. It is with the greatest difficulty that troops can be moved through the country for want of forage.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

No. 2.

Report of Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

FAYETTEVILLE, *April* 8, 1864.

GENERAL: Last evening Lyon's gang, 22 strong, charged upon our corral-keepers near Prairie Grove, and killed every man, 9 in number. I have sent Major Galloway and Captain Strong with 25 men

in pursuit. These rebels make threats that in one week they will have men enough to serve Fayetteville in the same manner. If you send 100 well-mounted men down here in a few days let them report to me for orders, and I will give them active work for a few days.

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General SANBORN.

APRIL 7, 1864.—Skirmishes near Port Hudson, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. George L. Andrews, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Capt. James Barnes, Twenty-first New York Battery.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. George L. Andrews, U. S. Army.

PORT HUDSON, LA., *April* 8, 1864.

SIR: Yesterday, our line being down between this post and Baton Rouge, 100 cavalry, under Captain Shaw, and a piece of artillery, without caisson, from the Twenty-first New York Battery, were sent out to protect the repair of the line. About 8 miles from this post they were attacked by a very large force of the enemy under Colonel Powers, and obliged to fall back, which they did in good order until within about 1½ or 2 miles of the post, where they were again suddenly attacked by a large body of rebel cavalry, which had come in on the Springfield Landing road, driving in our pickets. In the mêlée which followed the rebels succeeded in capturing the gun; most of our men escaped. A strong force of cavalry, infantry, and artillery was sent out with all possible promptness, but too late to impede the enemy in his rapid retreat. Our loss is, cavalry, 5 wounded, including a lieutenant, 9 missing; artillery, 7 men missing, 1 gun and 8 horses. I am of the opinion that the affair was as well managed on our part as circumstances would permit; that our loss was less by far than was to be expected under such circumstances, and that the wonder is that with so small a cavalry force it has been possible to keep open 25 miles of telegraph line on a route so exposed, with the great superiority of the enemy in cavalry, without much more serious disasters. The loss of the rebels is not known, although several are reported to have been shot by our cavalry in the affair. I learn from contrabands that General Wirt Adams was in Jackson yesterday with 800 men. I think the rebels had about 600 in the affair of yesterday. The present line from here to Baton Rouge being greatly exposed, I would recommend that it be transferred to the other side of the river along the levee, where most of the distance we would be able to reach the line from a steamer, and where the force of the enemy is now quite small. If this course is not taken it will be indispensable that I should have more cavalry. A fuller report will be sent per mail.

GEO. L. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Post.

Lieut. Col. R. B. IRWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Port Hudson, La., April 9, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the 7th instant, the telegraph line between this post and Baton Rouge having ceased to work, a repairer was sent out to repair the line, with an escort of 100 cavalry under the command of Captain Shaw, of the One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry, and one gun, without caisson, from the Twenty-first New York Battery, in charge of Second Lieutenant Potts. This detachment proceeded about 8 miles from this post on the Baton Rouge road, when it was attacked by an overwhelming force of the rebel cavalry, and obliged to fall back, which was done in good order until the detachment was within 1½ or 2 miles of the fortifications, when it was again suddenly attacked in flank by the rebels, who had sent a party in on the Springfield Landing road, driving in our cavalry outposts. In the mêlée which followed, the rebels succeeded in capturing the gun; most of the detachment escaped. Our loss is as follows: Cavalry, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois, 1 lieutenant and 1 enlisted man wounded, 6 enlisted men missing; Third Illinois, 3 enlisted men wounded, 3 enlisted men missing; total, 5 wounded (1 since died), 9 missing. Artillery, 7 enlisted men missing, 6 horses, 1 piece without caisson; aggregate loss, 5 wounded, 16 missing, 6 horses, 1 gun. I am of the opinion that the affair was as well conducted on our part by Captain Shaw as circumstances would permit; that our loss was small under the circumstances; that the result is one that was to be feared with so small a cavalry force as I now have, with a line of 28 miles of telegraph on this side of the river, and at least as much on the other side to maintain.

The force of the enemy is estimated at from 600 to 800 men in the affair of yesterday. Several of them were known to be shot in the action, but their loss is unknown. A strong force of infantry and artillery, with the little remaining cavalry available, was sent out to support the detachment with all possible dispatch, but was too late to do any good. A portion of my cavalry force had been employed on the west bank in protecting the construction of the line to the mouth of Red River.

If I am to maintain the telegraph line as it now is, an additional cavalry force will be indispensable. I would, however, respectfully recommend that the telegraph line from Port Hudson to Baton Rouge be transferred to the west bank of the river along the levee. The force of the enemy now on that side does not, I am informed, exceed 130 men, and in the present position of our forces in Western Louisiana can be probably dispersed. The new location of the line will bring it within reach of a steamer, enabling me to support the cavalry with infantry and artillery if necessary, without involving fatiguing marches. There is already a line on the other side of the river, which I presume I shall have to maintain.

It is desirable that the cavalry force at this post be increased if practicable. I am urging the preparation of another brigade of infantry for the field.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE L. ANDREWS,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. R. B. IRWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. James Barnes, Twenty-first New York Battery.

PORT HUDSON, LA., *April* 8, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 7th instant the following order was received by me:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Port Hudson, La., April 7, 1864.

Captain BARNES,
Twenty-first New York Battery:

SIR: You will detail a proper detachment with one gun to report to Colonel Fonda immediately.

By command Brigadier-General Andrews:

C. B. GASKILL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

The above was indorsed on the back of the following:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
Port Hudson, April 7, 1864.

Capt. CHARLES B. GASKILL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have ordered 100 men to go with the telegraph repairer, and would like one gun to accompany the expedition.

Respectfully,

JOHN G. FONDA,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

In accordance with the above order, I sent one piece, with a detachment consisting of 1 sergeant, 2 corporals, 7 cannoneers, 2 horse holders, and 3 drivers, under the command of Second Lieut. George Potts. The caisson was not sent. The gun was drawn by 6 horses. The 2 corporals and 1 cannoneer were on the limber. The remainder were mounted. The detachment left camp at 8 a. m.

From Lieutenant Potts I learn the following particulars: The cavalry and our detachment, all in command of Captain Shaw, One hundred and eighteenth Illinois Mounted Infantry, had reached a point on the Baton Rouge road about 2 miles below Plains Store, when a small body of mounted rebels was seen on the road below, apparently awaiting our advance. The gun was unlimbered and a shell thrown at them, upon which they retired into the woods on the left of the road. A couple of shells were thrown into the woods, when an order to advance the piece was given. After advancing about 200 yards one of our lead horses was shot. The team was taken out, but before the gun could be brought to bear our cavalry came rushing back crying, "Retreat!" Our forces retreated as fast as possible, followed by the rebels to Plains Store. At this point the rebels left the main road and struck into the woods to the left. When our troops had arrived within a couple of miles of Port Hudson the rebels again charged upon them from the woods close upon our left. The cavalry, after partially forming, broke and fled before the gun could be brought to bear, and it was thus left without any support. Our men with the gun attempted to follow the cavalry across an open field to the right, but the field was rough, the ground heavy from recent rains, and the horses exhausted with their rapid pace for several miles. After a short, sharp chase the gun was surrounded and 7 of our men captured. Our loss is as follows: Corpls,

Charles Barnard and James H. Campbell, and Privates Charles Dexter, Alonzo Dunham, Moses Potter, Daniel M. Roberts, and John Walker missing; one 3-inch rifled gun, with implements and equipments; 50 rounds of ammunition for same; 6 artillery horses, and the harness of same; 2 revolvers, 2 sabers, &c. It is not known whether any of the men were wounded.

As soon as information reached the post the small force of cavalry at command went out, and I accompanied them with a section of the battery. On reaching the vicinity of the place where the gun was lost I shelled the woods, and when the infantry supports came up a pursuit was undertaken, but the rebel force had retired beyond reach.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES BARNES,

Capt., Comdg. Twenty-first New York Battery.

Brig. Gen. R. ARNOLD,

Chief of Artillery, Department of the Gulf.

APRIL 7 and 15, 1864.—Skirmishes at the foot of the Sierra Bonita and at Spencer's Ranch, near Presidio del Norte, N. Mex.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of Arizona for April, 1864.

March 27.—A detachment of 26 enlisted men of Company F and 20 enlisted men of Company I, Fifth California Volunteer Infantry, and 10 enlisted men of Company C, First California Volunteer Cavalry, under command of Capt. James H. Whitlock, Fifth California Volunteer Infantry, left Camp Mimbres, N. Mex., in pursuit of a band of Indians, and overtook them on the 7th instant at the foot of the Sierra Bonita. Killed, after a short engagement, 21 Apache Indians and captured 45 head of stock; no casualties on our side.

April 3.—Captain French, with a detachment of 25 men of Company A, First California Volunteer Cavalry, proceeded to Fort Davis and Presidio del Norte, on the Rio Grande.

April 15.—He surprised at Spencer's Ranch, opposite Presidio del Norte, a Texas spy and scouting party, commanded by Captain Skillman, and after a sharp but short conflict he routed them entirely. Captain Skillman and 2 men were killed, 2 mortally wounded, and 4 taken prisoners, and 5 horses and 4 mules captured; no casualties on our side.

APRIL 8-23, 1864.—Expedition from Denver, Colo., to the Republican River, Kans.

Report of Lieut. George S. Eayre, McLain's Independent Colorado Battery.

CAMP WELD, COLO. TER., *April 23*, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit the following report: Agreeably to Special Orders, No. —, dated Camp Weld, Colo. Ter., April 7, 1864, I reported to headquarters District of Colorado for

orders, and received instructions to proceed with a detachment of men in pursuit of some cattle purporting to have been stolen by the Cheyenne Indians. Absence of transportation prevented my starting until the 8th instant, when, at 4 p. m., my command, consisting of 54 men and two 12-pounder mountain howitzers of Independent Battery Colorado Volunteer Artillery, Lieutenant Burdsal commanding, and 26 men of Company D, First Cavalry of Colorado, Lieutenant Phillips commanding, was put in motion. On the 9th, I encamped on Running Creek, 30 miles southeast from Denver, at which camp Lieutenant Burdsal was recalled and Lieutenant Beach took command, agreeably to special orders dated headquarters Camp Weld, April 9, 1864. On the 11th, I camped on Beaver Creek, 80 miles southeast from Denver, where I was joined by one Routh (who had been herding the stolen cattle) in the capacity of guide. On the 12th, I crossed the dividing ridge between the waters of the Platte and Arkansas and encamped on the Big Sandy, a confluent of the latter. Forced to remain in camp on the 13th from a prevailing snow-storm. On the 14th, moved 20 miles down Sandy and encamped, having at this point struck a broad and distinct Indian trail directly northwest, evidently having with them, from the numerous tracks, at least 100 head of cattle. I followed this trail on the 15th until I reached the headwaters of the Republican, a tributary of the Kansas River, when I was informed by one of my scouts that an Indian village was on a defile about 1 mile in advance of me. I immediately halted my command and dispatched Lieutenant Phillips with 2 men to make inquiry of the Indians in relation to the stolen cattle. Ten minutes had not elapsed after their departure when one of the men came galloping up and informed me that the squaws were all mounted and leaving the village and that the warriors were approaching the command. I immediately put the column in motion, and when passing through a defile an Indian was descried standing about 50 yards from the command. I ordered 2 men to take him prisoner and bring him to me, and while advancing so to do, the Indian shot 1 of the men through the body, inflicting a very dangerous if not a mortal wound.

At this point I ordered the artillery back to the transports, the nature of the ground being such as to prohibit its farther advance, and divided my forces into squads of 10 men each, with instructions to scour the country for a distance of 10 miles. Taking 3 men with me I proceeded to the village and found it entirely deserted, but containing immense supplies of beef and buffalo, dried and packed in the manner peculiar to the Indians; also a quantity of undressed buffalo robes, cooking utensils, powder, lead, beads, and all the paraphernalia of a completely supplied Indian village, all of which I burned, except such articles essential for the use of the command, and encamped upon the ground. On the 15th, I continued my course northwest. During the day my transportation animals, which had been showing evident signs of exhaustion for four days past, almost entirely failed, 1 mule dropping dead in the harness and others lying down. I was compelled at all ravines to attach a rope to the tongue and draw the wagons over by hand, but succeeded in getting 15 miles, when, coming to another village which had been deserted but a short time, I encamped and sent squads in pursuit on the trail. After following about 4 miles robes, dried meats, lodges, lodge poles, and all the various articles found at a first-class village were found strewn along the trail, and ascertaining that the Indians had gone

down the Republican the scouts returned, bringing with them 19 head of cattle, which the guide identified as being a part of those which had been stolen. On the morning of the 16th, I went with a party and collected and burned all the property which the Indians had thrown away in their hasty flight. My transportation consisted of ten Espenchied's iron-axle freighters, weight 2,000 pounds each, and the condition of my mules were such that it was impossible to follow with it, and the entire absence of grass forbade me following with my horses without some forage. I therefore deemed it prudent to return at once to Denver, make this report, and submit the following: That the Cheyenne Indians are the ones who stole the cattle; that they meditate hostilities against the whites, from the fact of their having first fired upon the command; that they are now encamped upon the Republican, some 200 miles east of Denver; that the distance can be greatly lessened by going other than the usually traveled route; that light thimble-skein wagons are best adapted to transport supplies through that portion of the country.

With these suggestions and an ardent desire, the district commander approving, to be ordered on a similar expedition,

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. S. EAYRE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Detachment in the Field.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Commanding District of Colorado.

APRIL 11, 1864.—Affair in Chariton County, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Daniel M. Draper, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

MACON, *April* 13, 1864.

GENERAL: In obedience to your telegram of the 8th instant, informing me of the robbery at Brookfield, I dispatched Sergt. Thomas J. Westly in charge of a squad at Laclede.

He started immediately on receipt of my dispatch in pursuit. He came up with the gang Monday night about 9 o'clock, in Chariton County; at the first fire our men killed 1 horse, the gang dispersed, and our men pursued. Two of them were run into Elk Creek, which was swimming for horses, and they may be drowned. He captured 3 prisoners, viz, William Hickman, William Hines, Jackson Bazier, all desperate men and noted bushwhackers. The first took the oath at Carrollton last summer, was guide for a party of guerrillas who robbed every Union man on Porche's Prairie, Sunday night last, and shot one John Smith, a German, and discharged soldier of my regiment. Hines was wounded by some of my men in a fight last June. Bazier was a member of Holtsiclves' gang of guerrillas. Hines was in the gang that shot Smith. With them were captured 5 horses, several recognized as having been stolen, 6 double-barreled shotguns, 3 Colt revolvers, 3 Federal overcoats, 2 uniform coats, and 1 Government saddle. The sergeant had 4 soldiers and 7 citizens with him. He acted with great promptness and deserves much credit.

DAN. M. DRAPER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. C. B. FISK.

APRIL 12, 1864.—Skirmish near Fremont's Orchard, Colo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. George L. Sanborn, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Capt. George L. Sanborn, First Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP SANBORN, *April* 12, 1864.

SIR: Receiving information from W. D. Ripley, of the Bijou, that the Indians had been taking stock and committing depredations on the ranchmen on that creek, I this morning sent Lieutenant Dunn, with 40 men of Companies H and C, to recover the stock, also to take from them their fire-arms and bring the depredators to this camp. This evening an expressman arrived from Lieutenant Dunn, who states that after a hard ride they came up with a party of some 15 or 20 Indians, who, on seeing the soldiers approach, drew up in line of battle and made all preparations for a fight, but finally sent forward one of their party to shake hands, and at the same time began to drive their stock back into the bluffs. They soon all came up and wished to shake hands. Lieutenant Dunn then demanded the stock and commenced disarming the Indians, when they turned and ran, turning and firing, wounding 4 of Lieutenant Dunn's party, 2 mortally and 2 severely. Lieutenant Dunn had previously divided his party, sending a part of them across the country to intercept the Indians, and at the time of the skirmish had with him but 15 men. This much I have learned from the messenger verbally.

The skirmish occurred on the north side of the Platte, 3 miles below Fremont's Orchard. The Indians were going north. It will be well to telegraph to Laramie that they may be ready, for this may be the signal of the uprising. Excuse my suggestion; will send an expressman with further news as soon as we get it.

Lieutenant Dunn has just arrived and reports that none of the men were killed; several of the Indians were seen to fall from their horses, but being freshly mounted, succeeded in getting them away, as the horses ridden by Lieutenant Dunn's men were tired by their long hunt after the Indians, having traveled nearly 80 miles. Lieutenants Dunn and Chase will proceed in the morning on their trail. I have sent for Gerry to act as guide, also to McWade to hurry forward our arms. These Indians were armed with a rifle, a Colt revolver, and bows and arrows each, and were evidently on the war-path, as they did not talk anything but fight. Send down at least 8,000 more cartridges for the carbines for this command.

Major Downing was here when the information was received and fully concurs in the action taken.

I am, sir, in haste, yours, respectfully,

GEO. L. SANBORN,
Captain, First Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

Col. JOHN M. CHIVINGTON,
Commanding District of Colorado.

P. S.—Lieutenant Dunn says they represented themselves (the Indians) to be Cheyennes; they also had carbine pistols.

G. L. S.

CAMP SANBORN, *April* 13, 1864.

SIR: Will you order a surgeon down at once, for 2 of the wounded men are unable to be moved, and I think they will not recover unless speedy relief is given them. One of them has an arrow-head remaining in his back; his name is J. G. Brandly. R. E. McBride has two severe wounds from arrows in the back, one opposite the right lung. Both were extracted. A. J. Baird wounded in the right shoulder; the arrow-head still remaining in. John Crosby, pistol wound, breaking the right arm between shoulder and elbow; the ball still in the arm. All the men behaved in the best manner, and only from the fact that a portion of our men were on the ground at the time of the fight and the tired state of the horses, is to be laid the fact that every Indian of the party was not killed or taken prisoner. Lieutenants Dunn and Chase are on the route, having started at 7 this morning, with Gerry as guide, to take the trail; they have four days' rations; shall keep a strong picket out up and down the Platte to protect the route and ranchmen.

I am, sir, with much respect, your obedient servant,

GEO. L. SANBORN,
Captain, First Colorado Cavalry, Commanding.

Col. JOHN M. CHIVINGTON,
Commanding District of Colorado.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP SANBORN, *Colo. Ter., April* 18, 1864.

In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 9, dated headquarters Camp Sanborn, April 12, 1864, to take from the Indians stock consisting of horses stolen by them from ranchmen in the vicinity of Camp Sanborn, &c., started at daylight, crossing the Platte, dividing my command, and searching the bluffs on the south side a greater part of the day, till about 3 p. m. I discovered their trail running in northwesterly direction toward the Platte River, when, about 4 p. m., on coming out of the sand hills, I discovered the Indians on the north side of the river, evidently intending to steal a herd of horses and mules grazing near Fremont's Orchard, which belonged to the quartermaster at Denver. Though during the day my command had marched about 75 miles over sandy hills, deep ravines, and most of the time without water, the whole country being an arid waste, I immediately ordered the gallop and soon intercepted them from the herd, when, upon approaching them, I discovered a herd of horses, which they detached men to drive into the sand hills toward the north, and placed themselves in a threatening attitude. When near enough to speak to them, Mr. Ripley, a ranchman, who had lost all the stock he had, and who had informed us of their depredations, said that they were the Indians, and pointing to the herd said there was his stock. Feeling the great responsibility that was resting upon me, and not desiring to bring about an Indian war by being the first aggressor, I dismounted, walked forward to meet their chief, and tried to obtain the stock without any resort to violence. After requesting the chief to return the stock, who replied only by a scorn-

ful laugh, I told him I would be compelled to disarm his party, at the same time reaching forward as if to take the arms from one of the Indians, when they immediately commenced firing. I ordered my men to return the fire, and after a short time they fled, and I pursued them about 15 miles, when, finding that my horses would soon be worthless in the pursuit, I started toward Camp Sanborn, which I reached toward midnight, when, obtaining fresh horses and Mr. Gerry for a guide, whose experience for twenty-five years with the Indians we deemed invaluable, I started again at daylight, following the trail till about noon, when it commenced storming violently, snowing and blowing, till the hills appeared to be wrapped in one volume of dust; still I pursued the trail. Though before the storm it had become almost obliterated, it now soon became totally so, when, being unable to discover any further indication of their course, by the advice of my guide I turned toward, about sunset, and reached camp before daylight the next morning.

My command with me and engaged in the skirmish with the Indians numbered only 15 men, of whom 4 men were wounded, 2 mortally and 2 severely. My men were armed with the Whitney pistol, caliber .36, and sabers. The Indians were about 25 strong when the skirmish commenced and were re-enforced by about 20 more. They were all well armed with rifles, navy and dragoon pistols, and the carbine pistol, carrying an ounce ball, besides their bows and arrows. My men during the engagement behaved with great coolness, and evinced a degree of courage deserving more than ordinary credit. If my horses had been fresh, I am confident that this band would never again have troubled the settlers in this vicinity.

I have not yet been able to learn to what tribe these Indians belong, though their lances, shields, bows, and arrows which were left upon the field are said by those most intimate with the Indians' character to be such as are used by the Cheyennes, though their peculiar method of traveling is not at all like them. We omitted to mention that we killed some 8 or 10 of the Indians and wounded about 12 or 15 more.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CLARK DUNN,

Second Lieut., First Colorado Cavalry, Comdg. Detach.

APRIL 12-13, 1864.—Expedition up Matagorda Bay, Tex.

Report of Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Pass Cavallo, Tex., April 15, 1864.

COLONEL: I am directed by Major-General McClernand to report that the transport Zephyr, with two guns, and the gun-boat Estrella, each with a company of infantry, left here on the 12th instant, under orders from these headquarters to sail up Matagorda Bay and gain information respecting the movements of two vessels seen inside the peninsula. On approaching the Matagorda reef the gun-boat Carr and the armed schooner Buckhart, two rebel vessels, were seen on the other side of the reef. Shots were exchanged, without any other effect than temporarily to drive the rebel gunners from their guns.

Two rebel scouts were seen on the peninsula, who fled upon seeing a party disembark from our vessel. The same evening the Zephyr ran down a small sloop on her way from Matagorda City to Port Lavaca, her crew jumping overboard into shallow water and escaping. Next day the Estrella and Zephyr sailed to Indianola, and thence to Oliver's Point, in Trespalacios Bay, where they captured another small sloop and two small boats, and burned still another sloop. All were brought to this landing, excepting the burned sloop, and turned over to the quartermaster.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sinclair, inspector-general of this corps, commanded the Zephyr and Lieutenant-Commander Cooke the Estrella. Lieutenant-Colonel Warmoth, of the staff, accompanied the latter.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL CALDWELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Lieut. Col. R. B. IRWIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APRIL 13, 1864.—Skirmish on Spring River, near Smithville, Ark.

Report of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

BATESVILLE, ARK., *April* 16, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that a scout under command of Major Pace, Eleventh Regiment Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, on the 13th instant encountered a party of 40 of the enemy about 8 miles west of Smithville, on Spring River, charging and routing them. Enemy's loss, 5 killed and 7 captured. No casualties on our side.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Col. First Regt. Nebraska Cav. Vet. Vols., Comdg. Dist.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Arkansas.

APRIL 13-14, 1864.—Skirmishes at and near Richland Creek, Ark.

Report of Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following, condensed from a report of Major Murphy, of date the 18th instant, and came to hand yesterday: Captain Turner, Sixth Missouri State Militia, at the above date arrived at Yellville from a reconnaissance on Richland. The 13th instant he had attacked a camp of 63 rebels and routed them completely; one Captain Watkins and 4 others were killed, several were wounded, and 1 made prisoner.

The next day two or three of the guerrilla bands gathered together to the number of 100 or more, under Captains Love and Cordelle.

Captain Turner followed them up and attacked their advance. In the engagement Cordelle was killed, and 2 others wounded. From the information he collected, one Colonel Lewis is on Sylamore, with 200 or 300 men, poorly armed and equipped, probably recruiting, and designs to go to Missouri soon on a recruiting tour. Captain Turner had captured 8 horses and mules and some 7 stand of arms.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. PHELPS,
Colonel Second Arkansas Cav., Comdg.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Comdg. District of Southwest Missouri.

APRIL 14-18, 1864.—Expedition from Camp Sanborn, Colo., to Beaver Creek, Kans.

Report of Lieut. Clark Dunn, First Colorado Cavalry.

CAMP SANBORN, COLO. TER., *April* 18, 1864.

In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 11, dated headquarters Camp Sanborn, April 14, 1864, ordering me to pursue the Indians committing depredations on the Platte, &c., at 12 o'clock Thursday night, April 14, 1864, I started from Camp Sanborn, being about twenty minutes from the time of receiving the order, with Lieutenant Chase and 30 men of Companies C and H, went to Bijou Ranch, then to Dry Creek, and finally to the Junction Ranch, where the stock had been stolen, when, learning their course and procuring a guide, we soon discovered their trail, and about noon reached the ranch on Beaver Creek, where some ranchmen were supposed to have been murdered. Found no dead, nor any indication of there having been a struggle. Toward night we recovered about 40 head of cattle, and after securing which we followed the trail in a southeasterly direction, up the left fork of Beaver Creek to its headwaters, where, about 4 o'clock the following morning, we reached a point where the Indians had camped about two days before, when my guide (Asbreuft) informed me that the Indians must have gone to the Arkansas River, as the trail was at least 15 miles too far up Beaver Creek to strike the Republican, and, as they were evidently traveling at the rate of 60 miles a day, I considered that before we could reach them they would be on the Arkansas River, and probably in the camp of their tribe, among whom it would be impossible to identify them; and not having sufficient rations with us to last another day, while two days' constant riding had greatly exhausted our animals, we, with great regret, were compelled to return to Camp Sanborn. Lieutenant Chase and the men of Companies C and H, though compelled to remain constantly in the saddle for sixty hours, marching about 250 miles, with regret relinquished the pursuit. Too much credit cannot be awarded them.

In pursuing the Indians we have experienced great difficulty in learning to what tribe they belonged, though every evidence in our possession goes to prove that they are Cheyennes from the Arkansas River. Great difficulty has been experienced in not having pack saddles; this is now about being remedied, as we learn that there

are a few that will be here this evening; therefore, hoping that if it again be necessary to pursue the Indians that, properly equipped, I will be able to render a report of not only a pursuit but a capture,

I remain, yours, very respectfully,

CLARK DUNN,
Second Lieut., First Colorado Cavalry, Comdg. Detach.

APRIL 15, 1864.—Skirmish near Baton Rouge, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. P. St. George Cooke, U. S. Army.

BATON ROUGE, *April* 16, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Information was received of the enemy approaching to attack this place yesterday. A scout of 50, however, drove an equal number as far as 20 miles yesterday afternoon. Reports state 2,000 rebel infantry have crossed the Atchafalaya back of Morganza; they can cross the Mississippi at pleasure, unless gun-boats are sent up. Three companies Illinois cavalry arrived mounted.

P. ST. G. COOKE,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

Maj. J. LEVERING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APRIL 15–20, 1864.—Operations in the Indian Territory.

Report of Col. William A. Phillips, Third Indian Home Guard, commanding Indian Brigade.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *April* 21, 1864.

SIR: General Orders, No. 14, was received yesterday, and on same day the order relieving General Blunt and placing us in Department of Arkansas. I communicate matters that may concern your command. I hope there has been no stoppage of the supply train; if there has we shall starve.

The day before yesterday a scout of the enemy from the Choctaw Nation swung in on my left and crossed the river, 15 miles southeast, 6 or 7 miles from Mackey's Lick. I sent out one party of infantry, under Capt. White Catcher, to watch the fords, and sent two parties, one under my adjutant, Gallaher, and one under Captain Anderson, in pursuit. The stock was ponies borrowed from the women, or pressed—everything that could be got. Adjutant Gallaher, after a 20-mile chase, caught up with one party of rebels and chased them 4 or 5 miles, scattering them and killing a few of them. Captain Anderson found the other party, and after a running fight of 4 miles drove them over the river. One rebel killed in the river; do not know what others were hit.

Yesterday morning a large scout crossed the Arkansas, 25 miles from here, driving in my pickets stationed there. They were all white men but 2, well mounted and equipped. I believe it to be Quantrill; he murdered Jim McKellop, a prominent half-breed Creek, and 4 others at Chosky. I dispatched all the forces I could spare, but as all my cavalry were taken away I am nearly helpless. Two-thirds of the men I sent are infantry. The mounted men that Captain Phillips takes with him are merely on ponies, pressed or bor-

rowed, and his whole force, infantry and mounted men, scarcely equal to the enemy. The rebel force I refer to is not to exceed 200 men, and I believe less, but it is at very least upward of 100 men, all in excellent condition and consequently formidable.

I had sent five days ago Captain Kaufman with an effective force (infantry) and one howitzer. He was to bring the small amount of corn still left, and make a reconnaissance in force and get forage. I have notified him, &c.; started the day after Captain Anderson got back from We-Wo-Ka. Anderson's force went 80 miles south and brought sixteen loads of corn, most of which had to be used as bread. It was thought that as much more could be had. At the time Anderson left Canadian the enemy were ascertained to be in no force this side of Boggy Depot or Washita. These forces of rebels came in from the southeast from the Choctaw Nation; the force that crossed on my left crossed 18 miles below, the white force (Quantrill) 25 miles above. The latter force passed my front, 20 miles distant, in the night, 20 miles in Kaufman's rear, and crossed 25 miles up the river. They avoided my outpost, but drove the picket after they crossed the river. I apprehend they meditate a raid on Kansas; either is that or these are feints to cover some movements below. I apprised the parties below.

I have ordered my commands who are following up the Arkansas River to notify me the instant they cross the river south or strike north. I shall send a telegram to you via Fort Smith. I have sent two companies of infantry up Grand River to meet the train, for fear it should have a small escort. As I have almost everything out I have had temporarily to suspend work on the fortification; taking away my cavalry and principal part of the Third has weakened me, and suffer chiefly for want of horses. I have heard nothing of the train. As it is too early for grass the enemy's movements mean something more than mere bushwhacking. As I have sent everything after the enemy I am barely able to hold on to my position, but am not afraid of any attack they may make on the works here.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours, truly,

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Commanding Department of Kansas.

APRIL 16, 1864.—Affair on the Osage Branch of King's River, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 2.—Capt. Dennis W. Roberts, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
April 28, 1864.

GENERAL: I transmit the following list* of killed, wounded, and missing. The party belonged to the post of Berryville, Ark., and consisted of 26 men under Sergeant Watts, Company A, Second Ar-

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 6 men killed and 1 missing.

kansas Cavalry. They were foraging on the Osage Branch of King's River, Carroll County, Ark., and were attacked on the 16th instant by the guerrilla Cooper and a band of some 80 or 100 strong. Twice my men repulsed the rebel crew, charged and drove them, but outnumbered and overpowered at last they had to abandon the six wagons for which they had fought, leaving besides in the hands of the enemy 3 prisoners, who have since returned, paroled. The 6 colored teamsters were butchered without mercy, and the wagons destroyed. The event is an unfortunate one; yet, though I cannot but regret the loss of those men and of the train, the gallantry displayed by the little band challenges all blame, and can but call from me a praise which I feel proud to have to bestow.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. PHELPS,
Colonel, Commanding Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Dennis W. Roberts, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS,
Berryville, Ark., April 17, 1864.

SIR: On the 16th, about 20 miles from here, a force of from 200 to 300 rebels attacked my forage train, guarded by 36 men, and after a brave and desperate resistance on the part of the escort they were compelled to abandon the train. I must speak in the highest praise of Sergeant Watts, who commanded the escort, and (with the exception of 2 or 3) the men, who fought bravely until all hope was lost of being able to preserve the train. There are only 10 killed and missing of the escort. There were only five wagons in the train. The rebels are said to be commanded by Cooper, and commands near 300 men.

I received information of my field returns not being received at that office on the 13th, p. m., and I started a copy for each time that they had not been received on the 14th, p. m.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

DENNIS W. ROBERTS,
Captain, Commanding Detachment Second Arkansas.

Brigadier-General SANBORN.

APRIL 17, 1864.—Skirmish in Limestone Valley, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Gideon M. Waugh, Second Arkansas Infantry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, April 23, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 14th instant I ordered Major Melton with 110 men to go and find Sissell and his band. He started on the 15th.

Captain Bailey, of my regiment, then on the way from Berryville with his company, was also ordered to march upon Sissell and attack him simultaneously with Major Melton, from another direction. In the mean time Sissell had moved camp, and instead of attacking at the same time, the two detachments falling in with one another formed junction and sought Sissell. He was encamped in Limestone Valley. Major Melton became informed of his position. He had encamped within 3 miles of Sissell, and at early dawn of the 17th instant attacked him. The enemy, surprised, barely attempted to form and scattered. Captain Orr, Second Arkansas Cavalry, had advanced on their right. Major Melton, who had come upon the rear, seeing the rebels breaking, ordered the charge. They fled in dismay, a race for life. In the charge and in the pursuit for 8 miles, 30 were killed, a number wounded, and 8 taken prisoners, 23 head of horses captured, and some 25 stand of arms, the larger portion of which was destroyed. Major Melton returned to Buffalo River, whence in pursuit of Cooper, according to my orders, he swept down King's River and scoured all the country on that stream and Osage without finding anything of Cooper, who had disbanded, and from the information obtained returned to the Buffalo Hills. The train of Captain Roberts had been destroyed. I am awaiting information from him.

Major Melton, out of rations, unable to follow, reported in camp yesterday, the 22d instant, without any casualty whatever. He had taken his scout into five counties, and ridden over 200 miles. He reports neither rebel nor Federal force at Kingston, and 65 of the Arkansas militia at Huntsville.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. PHELPS,
Colonel Second Arkansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. U. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. Gideon M. Waugh, Second Arkansas Infantry (Union).

CLARKSVILLE, *April* 18, 1864.

GENERAL: On Saturday evening I sent out a scout north, under Lieutenant Hunter, to see what the enemy were doing in that direction. On Sunday morning Lieutenant Hunter formed a junction with a scouting party of Second Arkansas Cavalry, under Major [Captain] O'Brien, and surprised the rebel camp under Sissell, 180 strong, killing 30, capturing a large number of blankets, horses, saddles, and arms. Fight occurred 27 miles northeast, in Limestone Valley. I have sent out a heavy scout to hunt up a rebel camp, said to be 18 miles from this post. If I can find their camp I will clean them out. I can get no information from the citizens. I need more cavalry here.

G. M. WAUGH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

Brigadier-General KIMBALL.

APRIL 18, 1864.—Affair at Hunnewell, Mo.

Report of John T. K. Hayward.

BROOKFIELD, *April* 18, 1864.

Three bushwhackers came into Hunnewell to-day, armed to the teeth, and came to plunder. Citizens resisted. One citizen is dead and 1 mortally wounded, and Captain Farnam badly wounded. They killed 1 bushwhacker and captured 1 and 1 escaped. I have telegraphed to our agent there that it is contrary to orders to capture such men and to shoot him before he escapes. I fear they will yet do it. What are your orders? I don't think it is to keep him there.

J. T. K. HAYWARD.

General FISK.

APRIL 19, 1864.—Skirmish on King's River, Ark.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *April* 21, 1864.

On the 19th instant Major Melton, with 200 men, Second Arkansas Cavalry, had quite an affair with the forces of Colonel Sissell and Bailey on King's River, and the rebels were driven off with a loss of 25 killed and 9 captured; our loss not reported. Our loss the other day [16th] with train, was 4 wagons, 6 soldiers, and 3 negro teamsters killed and 1 soldier prisoner.

J. B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APRIL 19–20, 1864.—Skirmishes near Charleston, Mo.

Report of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., April 22, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the nonor to report that a detachment of my regiment stationed at Charleston, Mo., had a fight with guerrillas on the 19th instant, killing 4. On the 20th they came upon them in a house, a fight ensued, and 8 men killed; the house was burned. The Enrolled Missouri Militia have killed 6 within the past week; no prisoners were taken. Philip Davis, a desperate guerrilla chief, was killed.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel. Commanding.

Brigadier-General EWING,
Commanding District of Saint Louis.

APRIL 20, 1864.—Attack on Jacksonport, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Nebraska Cavalry.
No. 3.—Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Jacksonport, Ark., April 20, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that this station was attacked at 9 a. m. to-day by McRae's combined forces. The pickets held them in check about 10 minutes, at which time the First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry charged them, routing them and sending them pell-mell through the surrounding swamps. This on the part of the First Nebraska Cavalry is highly creditable, as it shows a rapidity of saddling, mounting, and forming line almost unprecedented. The enemy formed six times between here and the upper crossing of Village Creek, but his line was invariably broken by our forces and he compelled to fly. At one time Lieutenant Murphy (Squadron F) with 25 men in the advance charged the enemy's rear, 120 strong, cutting his way clear through their line, killing 6 and capturing 6 horses. We invariably closed on him whenever our half-starved stock could be brought up to them. The whole of the fighting was done by the First Nebraska Cavalry. Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Love (rebel) was among the killed, and 9 others; only 1 prisoner was captured; their wounded must be numerous from the number seen to fall. Casualties on our side, 2 slightly wounded. Colonel Love's papers are forwarded by this mail to provost-marshal-general.

I will move to-morrow to Augusta with 600 men and hope to get re-enforcements from the general commanding on the 25th instant. I will clean this country out before many days, rely on it. I am badly in want of forage. Please have action taken so as to insure me a supply; immediate shipment of forage from Devall's Bluff is absolutely essential to the existence of the remnant of my stock. There is no forage in this country north of Augusta.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,
A. A. G., 7th A. C. and Dept. of Ark., Little Rock, Ark.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Jacksonport, Ark., April 28, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that an attack was made upon this place on the 20th instant by the combined forces of McRae, Freeman, and Rutherford, the whole being under command of Col-

onel McRae. Lieutenant-Colonel Love had command of Freeman's men, that officer lying wounded at Augusta, Ark., at the time of the action. As soon as the firing commenced Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer, commanding First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry, hurried to the front and deployed his dismounted men as skirmishers. He was immediately engaged with the enemy and a brisk skirmish ensued, during which he steadily drove the enemy back for a distance of 6 miles. At this point they were endeavoring to draw our forces into an ambuscade. The enemy retreated across Village Creek, setting fire to the bridge behind them. The First gallantly charged the enemy, drove them from the bridge, and extinguished the flames, but their ammunition being almost entirely exhausted they were compelled to return to the west side of the bridge. For a full account of this spirited affair I respectfully refer you to the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer, a copy of which is herewith forwarded.

During this time the rest of the command was not idle. The mounted squadrons of the First Nebraska were sent forward to the support of Colonel Baumer. The battery was in position; two squadrons of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry (dismounted) were deployed as skirmishers and carried the left flank and front. A squadron of the Eleventh (mounted) was stationed near the bridge on the left flank and a little in the ——— of the command, and one dismounted squadron of the First Nebraska Cavalry, together with two squadrons of the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry (dismounted), were stationed at the upper bridge in our front with orders to prevent the enemy from crossing.

Having made this disposition of my forces, I moved forward with the main column, comprising about 200 mounted men and two pieces of artillery, to Village Creek, where I found Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer with his command awaiting re-enforcements. Finding it impossible to cross my artillery, and judging from the motions of the enemy and the reports made that they would endeavor to force an entrance into Jacksonsport by the upper Black River road, I returned to town. I learned afterward that the enemy were greatly demoralized by their defeat, and retreated more than 15 miles ere they halted.

Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer and the men of his command deserve the highest meed of praise for the gallant manner in which they first repulsed the enemy, and then becoming the attacking party, despite the disparity of numbers, driving the enemy before them for such a distance, charging the enemy whenever he made a stand, and not even giving them time to form. The Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, under command of Col. William D. Wood, responded promptly to the bugle call "to arms." Although they did not have a chance to participate in the engagement, it is but justice to say that both officers and men were eager for the fray, and were much disappointed in not being able to give the enemy a taste of their steel.

Accompanying I send report of Col. William D. Wood, commanding [Eleventh] Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, showing the part that his command took in the engagement.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,
Col. 1st Regt. Nebr. Cav. Vols., Comdg. Dist. N. E. Ark.

Maj. W. D. Green,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Nebraska Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST NEBRASKA CAVALRY VETERAN VOLS.,
Jacksonport, Ark., April 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders from district headquarters, I have the honor of submitting to you a report of the late actions of the regiment. On the morning of the 20th of April, about 8.30 a. m., I heard continuous firing upon the picket-posts in front of the regimental camp and ordered "boots and saddles" to be sounded, and caused the dismounted men to fall in with their arms. Some orderlies were sent out to ascertain if the pickets were attacked, and came back with the information that about 20 rebels had made their appearance in front of the picket on the Elgin road, but had fallen back to a troop of about 150 rebels then formed in the woods near the lower river road. Notice was given to the commander of the battery stationed on the left of my regiment to have his pieces in readiness, and information was also forwarded by the regimental adjutant to district headquarters. At the same time I sent Captain Ribble with 80 dismounted men, armed with Springfield muskets, and with Squadrons D and B as reserve, to advance on the lower river road and find out the intentions of the enemy. Captain Ribble saw the rebels formed in line of battle and sent the infantry as skirmishers to the front, when a heavy fire of musketry commenced, which induced me to send two more squadrons (C and A) to the support of Captain Ribble's advance. The fire was continually heard receding from camp, and I then started with Squadrons K and F to the place where the firing occurred, leaving Squadrons E, H, G, and I, with the remainder of the dismounted men, to protect the battery. The rebels had been driven the first time by the fire of the infantry, and retreated 2 miles from town, pursued by the four squadrons of cavalry. The road was very narrow and only 2 men could ride abreast, while the enemy had again formed in line to make a stand. I then detached Squadrons D and C to protect our right flank, and Squadron A to protect our left and avoid an ambuscade. The infantry came up and advanced on both sides of the road as skirmishers, followed by Squadron F and parts of Squadrons B and K as reserve. The rebels fled after a short fire, leaving 2 of their number dead upon the field. After advancing in the same manner 2 miles farther the enemy once more formed in line, evidently intending to dispute our advance, when Squadrons F and K, with not more than 30 men, charged them at once under a galling fire from the enemy. The rebels, although five times our number, broke ranks and fled in every direction, leaving 1 prisoner. Two men of Company F, Privates Tippin and Kellogg, were wounded in the breast and shoulder (not severely) by the enemy's fire. The infantry, although marching at double-quick time, could not keep up with the mounted men, and it not being prudent to follow up the charge, I was compelled to halt and advance slowly and cautiously with the infantry, followed by the mounted men. As we marched forward Squadrons E and H came up and the pursuit was continued faster for 2 miles farther to Village Creek, which the enemy had crossed and were then trying to burn the bridge. The infantry, deployed as skirmishers, soon made the enemy retire from the bridge

and the fire was soon extinguished by our men, and the bridge repaired so that the infantry could pass over. The rebels had left several horses tied in the woods across the creek. Our men going to get them were received by a heavy fire, which fortunately did no harm. They returned with 7 captured horses. Our skirmishers were placed behind logs and kept very quiet until the rebels made an attack upon them with a furious yell, when they replied with a roaring fire of musketry, and then the rebels kept very quiet on their side. At this time I dispatched a messenger to Jacksonport asking for ammunition, as some of my men had already fired away all the ammunition they had, in the mean time keeping cavalry alert on the flanks and rear in order to be prepared for a surprise, and then awaited orders from district headquarters.

In the afternoon two pieces of artillery and the Eleventh Regiment Missouri Cavalry came up. Orders were received not to cross the bridge, which was impassable for artillery, and we commenced our return march with the infantry in front, and Squadrons G and I, which had arrived from Jacksonport, as rear guard. We arrived in camp at about 4 p. m., having traveled 14 miles, including 7 miles running fight and a skirmish at the bridge for nearly an hour. Some of our men went over the creek without orders, and on for half a mile to the first house, where they saw 4 dead bodies and 2 rebels severely wounded, and learned also that McRae's whole command had been there and were then in retreat. The officers and men behaved well, and I several times had to give orders to keep my men from rushing ahead too far.

On the evening of the 21st of April I received instructions to have all the mounted men of my regiment (numbering 240) ready to march in the night, with eight days' rations. At 1 a. m. 22d, I received orders to start, and accordingly the march was commenced on the Augusta road, the First Regiment Nebraska Cavalry in front of the column of cavalry. Village Creek was crossed near Litchfield, and the march was kept up until 6 o'clock in the morning, when the command halted at Pickett's farm to feed the horses and rest for one hour. The roads were bad and muddy on account of recent rains. At 7 a. m. the column started (Companies I and G as advance guard) on the road toward Augusta. We passed an evacuated rebel camp, and then changed direction toward Cache River, which the enemy had crossed on the 21st. The command, after halting a quarter of an hour to feed at Connor's farm, proceeded toward Augusta, arriving there at 2 p. m., having marched 44 miles in thirteen hours. The command remained in Augusta until the morning of the 24th April. During that time it rained continually, and the men were quartered in houses.

On the 23d, a detachment of 50 men, under command of Lieutenant Hance, was sent north for the purpose of gathering up horses and mules. The party returned with 7 animals and 2 rebel prisoners at 5 p. m., having marched out 12 miles. At 6 a. m. April 24, the command was ordered to march back to Jacksonport, the First Nebraska Cavalry in rear, Companies E and G as rear guard, under command of Captain Ribble. Three squadrons (C, A, and K) were ordered to drive in all beef-cattle, horses, and mules, and all able-bodied negroes near the line of march. They accordingly went ahead of the column and scoured the road on both sides, bringing into Jacksonport nearly 400 head of beef-cattle of every description; also 18 horses, 16 mules, 4 negroes. The rear guard

arrived in camp at 7 p. m. 24th instant, having marched 35 miles. Both men and horses endured the fatigue of marching and the exposure to the bad weather well, and the men returned in good spirits.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BAUMER,

Lieut. Col., Comdg. First Regt. Nebraska Cav.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Northeastern Arkansas.

No. 3.

Report of Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY VOLUNTEERS,

Camp A. B. Kauffman, Jacksonport, April 24, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on the 20th instant I received at 8 a. m. an order from Colonel Livingston, commanding officer of the district, to put my command under arms at once and form in rear of the battery near the graveyard, as the enemy was in our front and a portion of the First Nebraska Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer, was then engaged with them on Village Creek road. I immediately ordered "to arms" to be sounded, and in three minutes my whole command (excepting the necessary camp guard, under Major Brown, the officer of the day) was in line dismounted, and marching at a double-quick to the designated place. Before reaching the battery I received orders to throw out skirmishers on the left and front. I sent two squadrons (C and D), under Captains Pace and Parsons, who immediately deployed as directed and covered the left front of our line. On arriving at the ground, and finding there was no immediate danger of an attack, I requested permission of the commanding officer to send back my squadrons and mount them. This permission was accorded, and Squadrons A, B, E, G, I, and M were sent back to camp, under Major Pace, and in twenty minutes were again on the ground mounted and ready for action. Squadrons L and K, permanently dismounted, were formed in rear of the column as infantry, under the command of Capt. A. B. Kauffman. I was directed to send forward one squadron to the left across Black River bridge to make a reconnaissance. Squadron E, Captain Wheat, was sent forward, and after performing that duty and hearing firing to his right, moved his command in that direction and reported to Lieutenant-Colonel Baumer just as the enemy had been driven over Village Creek bridge. At 10 o'clock I was directed to send Captain Kauffman and command to the Black River bridge, with instructions to hold it, and to move on in rear of the battery, the First Nebraska being in front.

Captain Collier, who had previously been ordered to form his squadron (G) on the north side of Jack's Creek bridge and hold the position in case of an attack at the upper end of town, was ordered to join my column, and with the eight mounted squadrons I pushed on down the Village Creek road. On arriving at the junction of this road with the Litchfield road I received orders to send two squadrons down to the river by that road, to learn the position of the enemy. Major Pace, with two squadrons (I and M), was sent on this important duty.

Meanwhile with my remaining squadrons I marched on down t road, and on arriving in sight of the creek found that the enemy h been effectually repulsed and was in rapid retreat, and receiv orders to march my command to camp; this was done. We arriv in camp at 3 p. m. Although my command did not have an opp tunity of coming in contact with the enemy, still the zeal and an iety shown by both officers and men to accomplish this desirab result is an evidence of what may be expected when such an eve does take place.

In this connection I desire to call the attention of the colonel co manding the district, and through him the attention of the co manding general of the department, to a state of affairs whi loudly calls for redress. From lack of forage four squadrons of m regiment are entirely dismounted, and the remainder, seven squa rons, are so much so that in case of an emergency it would be impo sible to mount over 300 men out of a force of over 700 present f duty, well armed and otherwise equipped and disciplined. Since m arrival within this command my horses have stood four days wit out forage. The river has been in a navigable condition a great part of the time, and I never heard any good reason why forag should not have been supplied in abundance. I have been inform there is plenty at Devall's Bluff.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WOOD,

Commanding Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Northeastern Arkansas.

APRIL 21, 1864.—Affair at Cotton Plant, Cache River, Ark.

Report of Col. Christopher C. Andrews, Third Minnesota I fantry.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, ARK.,
April 24, 1864—12 m.

CAPTAIN: Have just arrived with my command. During th three days after reaching Augusta we marched 60 miles, notwith standing heavy rains and bad roads. At our approach the reb forces, numbering 1,000, fled across Cache River, which they swam scattering and crossing in different directions. We have therefo had no more fighting than light skirmishing. We have captured prisoners, including 1 colonel (Col. W. M. Ponder, Ninth Missou Infantry), and a dispatch bearer from General Price, with his paper Have procured 75 able-bodied colored recruits, 60 head of service ble horses and mules, and $2,000 worth of contraband cotton. A happy to say that not a man of my command has met with an acc dent. Please have an ambulance in readiness for a wounded prisone Much credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Ohr, Sixty-first Illinois Lieutenant-Colonel Mattson, Third Minnesota; Captain Garriso Eighth Missouri Cavalry, and the officers and men of their command for efficient services.

C. C. ANDREWS,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. E. D. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

APRIL 22, 1864.—Affair near Cotton Plant, Ark.

Report of Maj. William J. Teed, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, *April* 23, 1864.

Capt. E. D. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following is the dispatch which I received from Clarendon, dated April 22, 1864, 8 p. m. :

Colonel M. had a fight 18 miles above Cotton Plant this morning, and was forced to return. I am here with 200 men. Colonel Lisenby is somewhere above here. Send us some forage. We are all right, but may need assistance. Lieutenant Clark and 18 men wounded, 2 men killed.

W. J. TEED,
Major Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

I have not heard from Colonel Andrews since he sent the dispatch to you.

Respectfully,

W. F. GEIGER,
Colonel, Commanding.

APRIL 22–24, 1864.—Expedition from Jacksonport to Augusta, Ark., and skirmish near Jacksonport.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

No. 2.—Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

No. 3.—Capt. George W. Weber, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Robert R. Livingston, First Nebraska Cavalry, commanding District of Northeastern Arkansas.

HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTHEASTERN ARKANSAS,
Jacksonport, Ark., April 25, 1864.

MAJOR : I have the honor to report that at 11.30 o'clock of the night of the 20th instant, I received a dispatch, per steam-boat Igo, from Brig. Gen. C. C. Andrews, commanding expedition to Augusta, Ark., informing me of his arrival at Augusta and his intention of going in search of the enemy, reported to be in force, under command of Colonel McRae, in that neighborhood, and desiring my co-operation. I immediately sent the boat back to General Andrews with a dispatch in which I stated that I would order "boots and saddles" sounded immediately, and that I had intelligence to the effect that the enemy was in the vicinity of Huff's Mill. I started with my command, consisting of detachments of the First Nebraska and Eleventh Missouri Regiments of Cavalry, numbering 450 men, at 2 a. m. of the 22d instant, taking with me eight days' rations, packed on mules ; traveled all day through a drenching rain and arrived at Huff's Mill at 1 p. m., where I learned that General Andrews' command had proceeded to Cache River and thence returned to Augusta. I immediately took the road for Augusta, where I arrived at 3 p. m., and reported my command to General Andrews. During this march

of 44 miles I halted but twice to feed, and the horses of the com mand, owing to the horrible state of the roads, were in a sorry plight Learning from General Andrews that he meditated no further move ment, I remained in Augusta during the 23d instant in order to res my men and recruit the animals. At 8 a. m. of the 24th, I lef Augusta with my command, en route for Jacksonport, sending thre squadrons ahead of my advance guard with orders to secure al cattle, horses, mules, and able-bodied negroes along the line o march. At 5 p. m. we reached Village Creek, 6 miles from Jackson port, and, although it was swollen by the recent rains, forded it with out mishap. About 3 miles from Jacksonport I found a portion o my advance guard dismounted and awaiting the arrival of th main column. The lieutenant in command of the detachment re ported that they had been fired upon by a small band of rebels, an that his captain (Weber, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry) had gone i pursuit with a small party of men. I pushed on to Jacksonport where I arrived with my command at 7 p. m., having traveled 3 miles during the day; embarrassed the latter part of the time by large herd of cattle, which rendered my progress necessarily slow I brought in with me about 300 head of all sizes, besides 26 horses 26 mules; also brought in 10 negroes, 8 of whom enlisted as under cooks. Just after our arrival at Jacksonport, Captain Weber Squadron M, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, who commanded the ad vance guard, and who had gone in pursuit of a band of rebels, reporte that he had pursued the enemy a distance of 5 miles through an al most impassable swamp, killed a sergeant named Eider and capture Captain Stein, Lieutenant Sollard, and 2 privates of McGee's com mand. They were turned over to the district provost-marshal an will be forwarded to Little Rock by the next boat.

Too much praise cannot be given Captain Weber for the gallantr and dash displayed in this affair. Lieutenant Schweikher, of Squad ron H, of the same regiment, who accompanied Captain Weber, i mentioned in high terms by Captain Weber in his report, which i herewith forwarded. Accompanying I also forward the reports o Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Regiment Missouri Cavalry Vol unteers, and Lieut. Col. William Baumer, First Regiment Nebrask Cavalry Volunteers, who commanded the detachments of their re spective regiments during the expedition. To both of these officer I am indebted for valuable services rendered and their promptnes and energy displayed in carrying out the various orders given them

I remain, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. R. LIVINGSTON,

Col. First Regt. Nebr. Cav. Vet. Vols., Comdg. Dist. N. E. Ark.

Maj. W. D. GREEN,

A. A. G., 7th A. C. and Dept. of Ark., Little Rock, Ark.

No. 2.

Report of Col. William D. Wood, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. ELEVENTH MISSOURI CAVALRY VOLUNTEERS,

Camp Kauffman, April 27, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to instructions from district headquarters I herewith submit report of the march recently made by a portio of my command from this place to Augusta and back. I receive

orders on the night of the 22d instant to move with all the men I could mount at 2 o'clock the next morning. Two of my squadrons being absent on escort duty to Batesville, and a large number on picket and patrol duty, I did not get over 155 men properly mounted to move with at the time specified, leaving Maj. L. W. Brown in charge of the camp, and the dismounted squadrons (L, K, and D) remaining. I directed Major Pace, my efficient senior major, to mount every man for whom he could find a horse, and to follow and join us as soon as possible.

I took up the line of march at the time specified, and joined the column of the First Nebraska just below town, and after a long and fatiguing march, arrived at Augusta at sundown of the 23d. At 8 o'clock that evening Major Pace reported to me with 60 mounted men, making my effective force 215 men and 18 officers.

We were directed to rest here one day, and on the 24th took up the line of march for Jacksonport, my command being divided into six squadrons, the right wing under my own supervision, and the left under Major Pace. On arriving at Village Creek, 4 miles from town, news was brought from the front that heavy firing was heard in the direction of our camp. I immediately closed up my squadrons and moved forward at a gallop. On arriving at the town, I found it to have proceeded from the fact that the men in camp had been ordered to discharge their arms for the purpose of cleaning them. Just before the word of the enemy being in front had been brought back, Capt. George W. Weber, who commanded the advance guard, came across a number of the enemy and charged them at once, and, after a pursuit of several miles, captured 4 and killed 1. The prisoners, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 2 privates, were turned over to the provost-marshal, Captain Majors. The energy and soldierly bearing of both officers and men of my command, displayed during the fatiguing march of over 80 miles through interminable swamp, is worthy of all praise, and the only disappointment I have heard expressed was because we did not meet the enemy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WOOD,
Colonel, Comdg. Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

Capt. H. C. FILLEBROWN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Northeastern Arkansas.

No. 3.

Report of Capt. George W. Weber, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY M, ELEVENTH MISSOURI CAV.,
Camp A. B. Kauffman, Jacksonport, Ark., April 25, 1864.

ADJUTANT: I have the honor to report that being in advance on yesterday's march I met a body of rebels about 4 miles from here. They drove in my extreme advance, consisting of 4 men, but as soon as they discovered my squadron approaching they broke and fled in all directions. After chasing them about 7 miles I captured 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 2 privates, and killed 1 sergeant. I also captured 3 horses.

My men acted nobly, and I take pleasure in especially recommending Lieutenant Schweikher, of H Squadron, for his daring and bravery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. WEBER,
Captain Company M, Eleventh Missouri Cav. Vols.

Lieut. A. J. NEWBY,
Adjt. Eleventh Missouri Cavalry Volunteers.

APRIL 28-30, 1864.—Skirmishes in Johnson County, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 3.—Maj. Jesse L. Pritchard, Second Colorado Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, *April* 30, 1864.

The First Missouri State Militia skirmished with the guerrillas Thursday afternoon; drove them onto the Second Colorado, who had a warm chase all day yesterday. We had 1 man killed, 1 wounded. Several guerrillas fell. The band is broken and scattered. Particulars by mail.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Warrensburg, Mo., May 2, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that First Lieut. James E. Couch, Company C, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and Francis N. Kelly, bugler, and Joseph T. Mason, private, Company C, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, were killed by Quantrill's guerrillas in Johnson County, Mo., on the 28th ultimo, and Jacob Spake, private in same company, was dangerously wounded. These guerrillas had just arrived from the south, and took Lieutenant Couch and his party by surprise. The band is supposed to number from 80 to 100 men, well mounted, armed, and equipped, and are

eported to be in Federal uniform. Afterward, on the same day, etachments of Companies D and M, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, attacked the guerrillas, and after several sharp skirmishes ispersed them in small parties, capturing the regimental flag of the Fifth [?] Indiana Infantry Volunteers from them. The pursuit vas kept up until dark. Whether any of the guerrillas were killed or wounded is unknown. Since then several companies of my egiment have been scouring the county in search of them without uccess. They are supposed to have gone west. Lieutenant Couch vas a very promising young officer and well qualified for the position he held.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES McFERRAN,
Colonel First Cav., Missouri State Militia, Comdg.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. Jesse L. Pritchard, Second Colorado Cavalry.

HARRISONVILLE, MO., *May* 2, 1864

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report: On the 27th ultimo I received information at 6 p. m., from station at Dayton, Mo., that a party of 80 men, supposed to be guerrillas, had crossed the Grand River at that point (Dayton) at 3 p. m., going toward Rose Hill, Mo., taking with them Sergt. P. Russell, Company L, Second Colorado Cavalry, commanding station at Dayton, as a prisoner. I immediately sent an express to Pleasant Hill, Mo., informing the commanding officer there of the fact, and also sent an order to Lieutenant Spencer, at Morristown, Mo., to report with all his available force to me at Harrisonville immediately. At 12 o'clock that night Lieutenant Spencer reported to me with 35 men, mounted and equipped. The night was dark, raining hard. At daylight I left Harrisonville with Lieutenant Spencer's command and 14 men of Company C—total, 49 men—for Rose Hill; arriving at that place, found the trail of guerrillas. They had partially destroyed the bridge across Big Creek. I soon repaired it so that I could cross and proceeded on the trail. I followed it to Holden and found that they had passed that place just before daylight that morning. I arrived at Holden about 12 m. I fed my horses and started on, following the trail north and west until I arrived within 3 miles of Chapel Hill, where I learned of the massacre of Lieutenant Couch and men of the First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. At this point the trail was so broken up and covered by trail of Federal troops crossing and recrossing that I could not follow it any longer, it being night. I started for Chapel Hill, arriving there after dark. I remained there till morning and then started for Lone Jack, Mo., where I met Lieut. Col. Theodore H. Dodd with Companies A, B, D, E, F, and K, Second Colorado Cavalry. I reported to him and received orders to take my former command and Company K, Lieutenant Stanton, Second Colorado Cavalry, and proceed north toward Napoleon, Mo., on the Missouri River. About 4 miles from Lone Jack I found trail of 10 guerrillas, which I fol-

lowed until it left the road and went into the brush. I sent my advance guard into the brush, who soon returned and reported a camp of guerrillas near. I sent Lieutenant Spencer with 20 men to get in rear of the camp. He found that they had left their camp and started in pursuit. After following them some 2 miles he came upon them in the thick brush and commenced firing upon them. They ran, he following about 1 mile farther; 2 men of Company G and 1 of Company K left the command and running down a road came upon the bushwhackers (10 in number), and supposing them to be our own men rode in among them, when the guerrillas fired upon them, killing Private G. Wells, Company K, and his horse, and wounding Private J. Freestone, Company G. The guerrillas were dressed in Federal uniform and it was almost impossible to tell them from Federals. Lieutenant Spencer followed until they took a trail made by a scout in the morning of the same day and lost the trail. His horse being completely jaded he could not follow any farther, and he started in search of the command. Night coming on he was obliged to camp without rations or forage, and at daylight went to Snibar Station and reported to Lieut. Col. T. H. Dodd. With my command I followed Lieutenant S. as fast as possible to the spot where Private Wells [was killed], to effect a junction with Lieutenant S., but did not find him, and camped. The next morning, hearing firing in the direction of Snibar Station, went there and found that the firing proceeded from the troops at that station discharging their pieces. There I found Colonel Dodd, who ordered me to Lone Jack, Mo. I was joined at that place by Maj. J. N. Smith with Companies A, B, E, H, and M, Second Colorado Cavalry. In the morning Major Smith started northeast and I started for Pleasant Hill. Camped that night at Pleasant Hill, Mo., and the next day (May 2) marched to Harrisonville, Mo., having marched about 140 miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. PRITCHARD,
Major, Second Colorado Cavalry.

Lieut. Col. THEODORE H. DODD,
Commanding Second Colorado Cavalry.

APRIL 28-MAY 7, 1864.—Scout from Springfield, Mo., toward Fayetteville, Ark.

Report of Maj. John Cosgrove, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST BATT., EIGHTH CAV., MO. STATE MILITIA,
Springfield, Mo., May 7, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with Special Orders, No. 118, headquarters post of Springfield, Mo., dated April 28, 1864, I proceeded with detachments of Companies A, B, C, and K, of the Eighth Regiment Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, numbering 80 men and 2 commissioned officers, in the direction of Fayetteville, Ark., for the purpose of establishing telegraphic communication with that post. Arriving near Cross Hollows, I met the telegraph repairer with a detachment of the First Arkansas Cavalry, and received information that communication had been re-established. I then proceeded in the direction of Bentonville, Ark., where a force of about 200 men of the

Second [Cherokee] Indian (rebel) Regiment, under Colonel Adair, was reported to be in the neighborhood of Cowskin Prairie. I concluded that the enemy was moving in the direction of Neosho to attack that place, and I therefore marched as rapidly as the condition of my horses would permit of to Cowskin Prairie. On that day I had several skirmishes and chases after stragglers of Adair's command, killing several. From the course the rebels took, I was still of the opinion that they were moving toward Neosho. On arriving at Cowskin Prairie I learned that the rebels had been ordered back and had recrossed Grand River west of Cowskin Prairie, about thirty hours in advance of my command. My horses having been exhausted from constant pursuits of rebel bands, and having all my rations exhausted, I concluded that further pursuit would be useless, and took the direction of Neosho, scouting on Cowskin River, where I found several rebels and had 1 of my men mortally wounded in an attack on a house where 2 rebels were posted. Here the usual treachery of the rebels was shown again by one of them surrendering until he had got the advantage and then fired, but he paid the penalty with his life. I also had 1 horse killed and 1 man shot through his clothes by the same fellow. Late that night I arrived at Neosho, where I found Major Brutsche, of the Eighth Regiment Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, preparing for an attack. Nothing further worthy of notice occurred until my arrival at Springfield.

I found the inhabitants of Benton County, Ark., and McDonald County, Mo., to be the most disloyal I have seen since 1861, disposed to give all the aid and comfort in their power to the rebellion. Grass is still insufficient for horses to subsist upon, the country mostly very broken, and no forage of any kind to be found. I killed 6 rebels, wounded 2, took 3 prisoners, and captured 8 horses, 2 of which had to be abandoned, and 6 guns. My casualties are 1 man mortally wounded and 1 horse killed.

My thanks are due to the officers and men of the command for their promptness and bravery, and especially to my advance guard for their coolness, judgment, and unflinching bravery whenever an enemy came in view.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your most obedient servant,

JOHN COSGROVE,
Major, Eighth Cav., Missouri State Militia, Comdg. Detach.

Lieut. JOEL H. SHELLY,
Post Adjutant, Springfield, Mo.

MAY 1, 1864.—Affair at Berwick, La.

Report of Col. Nicholas W. Day, One hundred and thirty-first New York Infantry.

THIBODEAUX, *May* 1, 1864.
(Received 10.45 a. m.)

I would respectfully state for the information of the general commanding that the pickets at Berwick were attacked this a. m., about 2 o'clock, by cavalry. They had one field piece with them; the gunboats drove them back. They do this, I think, simply to annoy us.

N. W. DAY,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Maj. J. LEVERING, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

MAY 2, 1864.—Affair on Bee Creek, Mo.

Report of Capt. Jacob Cassairt, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP AT FORSYTH, MO., *May* 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report a scout that I sent out on the 1st day of May, 1864, under the command of Lieutenant McElhanon, with 40 men, crossed the river at this place, marched down the river on the other side and near the mouth of Bee Creek, Mo. At this place heard of a camp of guerrillas 3 or 4 miles south in the mountains. Upon arriving at the camp, finding only 3 men in camp, at the same time their horses were some distance from camp, the men were immediately cut off from their horses, and upon seeing their condition broke to run on foot and were soon overhauled and killed. They went by names of Campbell, Williams, and Parkes, all Missourians. Captured their horses, 3 in number, immediately after destroying the camp; marching but a short distance, came up with a small squad of guerrillas which was scattered in the mountains, capturing 3 more horses which they were compelled to drop in the chase. Remained three days and nights in the country of Bee and Bear Creeks, Arkansas and Missouri, seeing several other squads of guerrillas from 2 to 8 in numbers. Owing to our stock being jaded and the roughness of the country we were not able to overhaul them, during the scout killing 3 men, capturing 8 head of horses and 1 prisoner.

I will further state that there are some 40 to 50 guerrillas in the vicinity of Bee and Bear Creeks, and further I state that Company K, Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, on this scout lost 2 horses, which I gave them permission to keep of the captured horses until I heard from you on the subject. It has been allowed in the regiment whenever a man lost a horse to mount him on a contraband horse; these 2 horses will be turned over to the quartermaster or retained by the men as their own, as you may direct. Your decision in this case I will be governed by in the future. The stock will be forwarded to Springfield, Mo., and turned over to the quartermaster immediately.

Respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JACOB CASSAIRT,

Capt., Eighth Cav., Mo. State Militia, Comdg. Company I.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,

Comdg. Dist. of Southwest Mo., Springfield, Mo.

MAY 3, 1864.—Skirmish between Bayous Redwood and Olive Branch, near Baton Rouge, La.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Henry W. Birge, U. S. Army.

No. 2.—Col. John S. Scott, First Louisiana Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Henry W. Birge, U. S. Army.

BATON ROUGE, LA., *May* 3, 1864,

(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Colonel Sheldon came upon the enemy about 6.30 this morning between Bayous Redwood and Olive Branch, he thinks about 1,500

strong; at 11 a. m. had driven them to within 5 miles of Clinton. Their whole force is said to be 2,000. They had started for Baton Rouge. Colonel Sheldon's loss thus far, 2 men. I requested General Ullmann by telegraph last evening to send out a force on the Jackson road to co-operate with Sheldon, which he says he will do. Line down between here and Port Hudson.

H. W. BIRGE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. JOHN LEVERING,
Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

No. 2.

Report of Col. John S. Scott, First Louisiana Cavalry.

CLINTON, LA., [*May*] 3, 1864.

SIR: The enemy attacked me this morning at Comite bridge, near Olive Branch Church, with three regiments of infantry, 800 cavalry, and battery of four Sawyer guns. I had 550 men and repulsed them. The command behaved most gallantly. Will send a report.

J. S. SCOTT,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieutenant-General POLK.

MAY 3, 1864.—Skirmish at Cedar Bluffs, Colo.

Reports of Maj. Jacob Downing, First Colorado Cavalry.

AMERICAN RANCH, *May* 3, 1864,
(Via Junction Station, 4th.)

Had a fight with the Cheyennes to-day. Killed about 25 Indians, wounded about 35 or 40 more. Lost 1 man killed and 1 wounded. Captured about 100 head of horses, &c. Send me more troops; I need them. The war has commenced in earnest. Will write particulars. Send me 5,000 cartridges immediately. Howitzers are needed.

J. DOWNING,
Major, First Colorado Cavalry.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON.

MURRAY AND KELLEY'S RANCH, *May* 3, 1864.

COLONEL: On the 1st instant I captured an Indian in this vicinity whom I supposed to be a Cheyenne spy, and ordered him shot, but upon being informed that he was a half-breed and part Sioux, concluded to spare him upon condition that he lead me to an encampment of Cheyennes, whom I had previously learned had camped near me and committing depredations on the whites, which he promised to do. On the 2d instant, about 2 p. m., I started with about 40 men. Marched about 15 miles and rested till 10 p. m., then again

started and marched all night. At about 6 a. m. reached their camp in a cañon near Cedar Bluffs. Found them prepared for a fight, and I immediately commenced business by intercepting them from their stock, horses, &c., and then detailing 10 men to take charge of it, then dismounting Companies Second, Third, and Fourth, to fight on foot, while Company First held the horses, my fighting command then being only about 25 men. After a few shots the Indians retreated to a cañon, naturally fortified, and while holding it had great odds against us. I attempted by skirmishing to drive them from it, but my command was too small and their position and numbers greatly against us. I then directed the men to confine their efforts to killing as many Indians as possible, which, after a fight of about three hours, they succeeded in killing about 25 Indians and wounding about 30 or 40 more, when the carbine ammunition getting rather scarce, and the Indians so concealed that after 50 shots I could scarcely get a man, I concluded to return to this place with the horses, &c., and, when more troops arrived, try them again. If in this affair I had had two mountain howitzers I could have annihilated the entire band. I think artillery will be necessary in all future operations against a party [so] camped, as lately they have selected such places only for their camps. The sacrifice necessary to be made to successfully charge their camps is entirely too great, and I wish, if possible, to avoid it. I have not heard anything of Company B yet. In this affair I lost 1 man killed, Isner, of Company C, and 1 wounded, Wilcox, of Company C. I want to go back to this place if you can furnish me with two mountain howitzers, and if you cannot, when I get more troops, will try it again any way.

Though I think we have punished them pretty severely in this affair, yet I believe now it is but the commencement of war with this tribe, which must result in exterminating them. The detachment was composed of 10 men of Company H and the balance of Company C, First Colorado Cavalry. Lieutenant Dunn was with me, and he, as well as all engaged in this affair, behaved with great gallantry, evincing a coolness and daring which would call a complimentary order from even a major-general.

Hoping, colonel, that you will approve what has been done in this matter, I remain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

J. DOWNING,
Major, First Colorado Cavalry.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
First Colorado Cavalry, Commanding District.

P. S.—Cedar Bluffs is about 60 miles distant. We started yesterday about 2 o'clock and returned this evening.

J. D.

MAY 3 and 5, 1864.—Skirmishes near mouth of Richland Creek, Ark.

Report of Col. John E. Phelps, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARKANSAS CAVALRY,
In the Field, May 10, 1864.

GENERAL: I forward report of the capture of my train by Jackman, on the 3d instant, near the mouth of Richland Creek. The

waters had been high and the train detained on the north bank of Buffalo River, unable to ford the stream. It was escorted by 100 men, under Lieutenant Garner. Every one in the vicinity able or willing to give information was in utter ignorance of the presence of a strong rebel force in the vicinity. Union people living close by had seen none, heard of none; no uncommon occurrence was or could be anticipated, when the escort was suddenly assailed, the advance guard cut off from the main body of the escort, and this from the train and rear guard. Almost surrounded, with only one way of escape, they fought as long as they could, and only gave up the contest against the superior numbers of the rebels when Lieutenant Hester and 38 men lay prostrate on the field. Lieutenant Hester and 32 others have been buried. How many and who were murdered after they had fallen, perhaps will never be known. It is not possible that they all fell dead; they were slaughtered.* On receiving the news, I immediately started the evening of the 4th with men returned from scouts and escorts, marched all night, a distance of 30 miles, and on the morning of the 5th, with 100 men, attacked Jackman in his camp. He had all the advantages of the ground and numbers. I defeated him and expelled him from his camp, intrenched as it was and protected by earth-works and other defenses, natural and erected. Driven from his camp, Jackman attempted to form his men again. I ordered a charge; he was again routed, but I could not pursue; my horses, too weak and famished, could not have stood it; otherwise my success would have been more complete, though I have reason to believe it might have been less if Jackman had not been wounded, as I suspect he was. Several more rebels were wounded, but none dead on the field.

My casualties were 7 wounded, some of whom were men who had already fought in the first engagement, escaped unhurt, and volunteered for the second. Some of the men wounded at the defense of the train I found in the neighboring hills. They had managed to conceal themselves, and I brought them up with me. I recovered also a number of mules belonging to the train; the rest had been shot and the train burnt up.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. PHELPS,

Colonel Second Arkansas Cavalry.

General SANBORN.

MAY 4, 1864.—Skirmish in Doubtful Cañon, N. Mex.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the District of Arizona for May, 1864.

May 4.—Lieutenant Stevens, with Company I, Fifth California Volunteer Infantry, while en route from Fort Cummings to Fort Bowie, were attacked in Doubtful Cañon, Steen's Peak, by a band of Apache Indians. The fight lasted about an hour, when the Indians fled. Loss on Lieutenant Stevens' side, 1 man missing and 5 wounded; Indians, 10 killed and 20 wounded.

* Nominal list of casualties reports 1 officer and 36 men killed and 11 men wounded.

MAY 5-9, 1864.—Scout in Craighead and Lawrence Counties, Ark.

Report of Capt. George W. Weber, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

HDQRS. SQUADRON M, ELEVENTH MO. CAV.,
Camp Kauffman, near Jacksonport, Ark., May 11, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to instructions from regimental headquarters, I left Camp Sherman, near Jacksonport, at 6.30 a. m. the 5th instant, with a command of 1 lieutenant and 52 men, provided with five days' rations. My instructions were to reconnoiter the country between Village Creek and Cache River, and more particularly in the vicinity of a settlement in Craighead County called the "Promised Land," and gather all the information possible as to the whereabouts of the enemy; after having done which I was to return by the way of Black River. I reached Village Creek about noon same day, and succeeded, with great difficulty, in crossing my command without any serious casualties, except the damaging of ammunition, which could not well have been avoided, as we were obliged to swim our horses some 100 feet, having accomplished which I proceeded upon my route until I reached Cureton farm, in the "Promised Land," where I bivouacked for the night, having made about 40 miles over roads that were almost impassable. Here I put my horses out to graze, that being the only means of subsistence for them, as there is no corn or fodder in that part of the country. Resumed my march early on the following morning, and arrived at Black's farm about 9 a. m., where I captured a captain and assistant quartermaster of the C. S. Army named Cyrus Black. From this place I proceeded to Lick Pond (or creek), which I crossed at Widow Parsons' place; followed Village Creek up to Johnson's, where I recrossed, being on a trail which I learned was a command under Captain Johnson, of Major Reves' battalion, C. S. Army. I followed this trail as far as Swink's farm, in Lawrence County, when I was obliged, owing to the very bad condition of my horses, to go into camp. Found here some forage belonging to Captain Cooper, C. S. Army, which I appropriated. Remained at this place until morning, when I again recrossed Village Creek and proceeded in the direction of Pocahontas, passing through Childrath's settlement, and crossing Running Waters (a creek almost impassable on account of its miry condition). Captured a short distance from this creek John Phelps, a lieutenant of Major Reves' command, who, by the way, has the reputation as being a desperate character. Continued my march until I reached the main Jacksonport and Pocahontas road, and had arrived within 7 miles of the latter place when I received what I considered reliable information that Colonel Jackman, with 300 picked men, and Captains Tracy and Copeland, with about 70 men, were on the opposite side of Black River. I deemed it prudent after consulting with the lieutenant to return to camp, having accomplished my object, or, rather, having carried out my instructions. I bivouacked that night on Black River opposite a small town called Powhatan, in Lawrence County, and was again obliged to graze my horses, not being able to procure any forage in that vicinity. Next morning I again took the main Jacksonport and Pocahontas road until I reached Mr. Gardness' farm, about 1 mile east of the main road, and encamped there for that night, there being plenty of subsistence for both men and

horses. On the following morning I again took up line of march for this place, passing through Elgin, and arrived here about 1 p. m. same day.

During the time I was absent I marched in all a distance of 150 miles, over roads that were in some places almost impassable. I captured in all about 20 Confederate soldiers, 3 of whom I brought in and turned over to the district provost-marshal on my arrival; the balance I paroled, as I did not wish to be encumbered with prisoners in the event of my having an engagement with the enemy. I also captured 3 horses, 1 mule, 1 shotgun, 1 rifle, and 4 revolvers; also pressed 6 horses and 1 mule, which I brought into camp and are turned over to the regimental quartermaster.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. WEBER,
Captain Company M, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

Lieut. EDWARD M. HEATON,
Acting Adjutant, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry.

MAY 6, 1864.—Raid on Napoleonville, La.

Report of Lieut. Col. Nelson Shaurman, Ninetieth New York Infantry.

DONALDSONVILLE, *May* 6, 1864.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Your dispatch received. I had sent orders to Captain Benedict, commanding detachment, to not let them escape him without damage to them. I have since sent advising him to form a junction with the cavalry force from Thibodeaux at Napoleonville, and try and capture the party. I have information just received that the force is the Second Louisiana Cavalry, and they came in through the canal road. They have sacked some of the stores in Napoleonville. The cavalry here are without fire-arms except a few pistols, and no ammunition for them. I furnished the balance with Enfield rifles.

N. SHAURMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

Major LEVERING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 6, 1864.—Scout from Bloomfield, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hiram M. Hiller, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

BLOOMFIELD, *May* 6, 1864.

The scouts sent out this morning have all returned. Lieutenant Toney chased 6 of the guerrillas some 25 miles below here, and succeeded in killing 2 of them, Whitson and Saddler, both noted scoundrels. Saddler had a parole in his pocket given him by the provost-marshal of New Madrid last December.

Yours,

H. M. HILLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Col. J. B. ROGERS,
Comdg. Sub-District, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

MAY 6-10, 1864.—Operations in Calcasieu Pass, La.*

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. James E. Slaughter, C. S. Army.
No. 2.—Col. William H. Griffin, Twenty-first Texas Infantry.
No. 3.—Maj. J. Simpson, Second New Orleans Infantry (Union.)

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. James E. Slaughter, C. S. Army.

HOUSTON, TEX., *May 7*, 1864.

Colonel Griffin attacked the enemy at Calcasieu yesterday morning; captured gun-boats Granite City and Wave, 16 guns and 80 prisoners. Can you spare Cook's regiment, or five companies of it, to guard prisoners at Hempstead?

JAS. E. SLAUGHTER.

Brig. Gen. HAWES,
Galveston.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. William H. Griffin, Twenty-first Texas Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS SABINE POST,
Sabine Pass, May 11, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as amendatory of my report† on the late engagement with the enemy at Calcasieu Pass: Owing to the hurried manner in which I wrote out my report and the multiplicity of other business on my hands, I omitted entirely to mention the names of the officers of the medical staff engaged with me on that occasion. Great credit and praise is due to Assistant Surgeons Barton, Gordon, and Bailey for the indefatigable and energetic manner in which they discharged their duties. At the commencement of the battle, a hospital was established at a vacant house, to which all the wounded were carried as fast as possible. As soon as the wounded of my command were disposed of they lent all their aid to the Federal medical officer. Only one capital operation was performed upon the soldiers of my command, but there were nine capital operations performed upon the officers and crew of the Granite City. I thought it very strange when I went on board the Granite City that there were so many seriously wounded and so few dead. It will now be explained. Five dead bodies have washed ashore, to which weights had been attached and then thrown overboard. How many more dead were thrown overboard of course will never be known. I was aboard the Granite City when the knave ran up the white flag. I could after that plainly see pistols, guns, swords, &c., being thrown overboard. It is said an iron safe was also thrown into the pass. They attempted to throw overboard two Dahlgren

* U. S. steamers Granite City and Wave captured May 6; attack on U. S. transport Ella Morse, May 8, and capture of boat party from the U. S. steamer New London, May 10. See Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.
† Not found.

howitzers, but failed in doing so. The probability is, therefore, that some 15 or 20 of the enemy were killed in the late battle. It is due to Dr. Gordon to say that all the operations performed on the Granite City, with one exception, were performed by him.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WM. H. GRIFFIN,
Colonel Twenty-first Texas Infantry, Commanding.

Capt. L. G. ALDRICH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Houston.

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HEADQUARTERS SABINE POST,
Sabine Pass, Tex., May 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following more detailed statement of the captured prisoners, the killed and wounded, in the late engagements with the enemy at Calcasieu Pass on the 6th and 10th instant:

Federal Prisoners.

Captured on the 6th instant	166
Captured on the 10th instant	7
Captured since on the Mermentou River	1
Total captured	174

Of the above there were—

Commissioned officer of the Army	1
Commissioned officers of the Navy	27
Non-commissioned officers and privates of the Army	27
Petty officers, seamen, &c., of the Navy	103
Negroes (7 Northern and 8 Southern)	15
Capt. Jack Nelson	1
Total	174

Sent to Houston May 9, 1864	133
Capt. Jack [Nelson] sent to Houston	1
Sent to Houston May 12	19
In hospital on steamer Wave	13
In charge of Colonel Griffin	1
In charge of Major McReynolds	1
In charge of Assistant Surgeon Gordon	1
In charge of Captain Lubbock	1
Died from wounds	4
Total	174

Negroes captured.

Sent to Houston May 9, 1864	10
In charge of Colonel Griffin	1
In charge of Major McReynolds	1
In charge of Assistant Surgeon Gordon	1
In charge of Captain Lubbock	1
In hospital on Wave (cook)	1
Total	15

Besides the prisoners who have died from their wounds, 7 others were severely wounded and 11 or 12 slightly. It will be impossible even to ascertain the number who were killed in battle, as they were all thrown overboard. Several have broken loose from their weights and floated ashore, and others have been fished up from where they had been thrown. From the best information that I have been able to ascertain I suppose that from 15 to 20 were killed in action and thrown overboard.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. GRIFFIN,
Colonel Twenty-first Texas Infantry.

Capt. L. G. ALDRICH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Texas, &c., Houston, Tex.

Return of Casualties in the Confederate forces at Calcasieu Pass, May 6, 1864.

(Compiled from nominal list of casualties.)

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
21st Texas	....	5	a1	3	9
Daly's battalion	.....	2	.....	b2	4
Spaight's battalion	.....	.....	.....	b1	1
Creuzbaur's battery	.....	1	.....	c6	7
Total	....	8	1	12	21

a Lieut. N. E. Iglehart, wounded.
b One man mortally wounded.
c Two men mortally wounded.

No. 3.

Report of Maj. J. Simpson, Second New Orleans Infantry (Union).

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *May* 10, 1864.

GENERAL: I have to report the capture of the detachment sent to Calcasieu, La.; also the gun-boats Wave and Granite City at that place. I arrived at Calcasieu Sunday, 8th instant, at 7 a. m., on the steamer Ella Morse, Captain Pepper. We crossed the bar and entered the river, and when within about 500 yards of the gun-boats, things looking a little suspicious, stopped our boat. The tide swung her around; we dipped our flag as a signal, and were answered by a broadside from the Granite City. We immediately put on steam and ran down the river, the Granite City throwing shot and shell at us for about half a mile, and then we were attacked by sharpshooters from either shore. Our pilot was wounded by the first shot. Captain Pepper took the wheel and ran the boat out. We know nothing further in regard to the capture.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. SIMPSON,
Major Second New Orleans Volunteers.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH J. REYNOLDS,
Commanding Defenses of New Orleans.

MAY 6–11, 1864.—Scout from Patterson, Mo., and skirmish (8th) at Cherokee Bay, Ark.

Report of Capt. Abijah Johns, Third Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

PATTERSON, MO., *May* 11, 1864.

SIR: In compliance with the within order, I proceeded on the morning of the 6th for the point within named, first, to or near Poplar Bluff, 33 miles; thence to Cleveland, in the swamps, 40 miles; thence to ferry on Current River, near Pocahontas, Ark., 22 miles. Found the ferry-boat destroyed, and impossible to cross either Current or Black Rivers without endangering the lives of some of my men; therefore I proceeded up Current River some 10 miles. My advance* discovered the rebels in line near the road, in the brush, and fired upon them, they receiving in return a volley from some seventy-five or eighty guns without doing any injury. I immediately formed my men and charged them, scattering them in all directions, they having 12 killed and a number wounded. After looking through the brush in search of rebels, and found that they had all skedaddled, I proceeded on to Little Black bridge, some 22 miles, fearing it might be torn up by the rebels and cause me some trouble in crossing Little Black River. Finding no forage, I proceeded on to Buck Skull, some 5 miles, and encamped. On the morning of the 10th, turned my course toward Patterson; marched 35 miles, and encamped; and on the 11th, came into Patterson, having lost in the skirmish 1 man, supposed to be taken prisoner, and 2 horses killed. Learned from reliable sources that Kitchen was some 20 miles below Gainesville, on Crowley's Ridge, with but few men; I also learned that Reves had some 40 men 12 miles below Pocahontas, Ark., recruiting. The men with which he attacked me were commanded by Captains Johnston, Bowls, Kenedy, and Reves.

All quiet, as far as I could learn, west of Pocahontas and Doniphan.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ABIJAH JOHNS,
Capt. Company A, Third Cav., Missouri State Militia.

Col. JOHN F. TYLER,
Commanding Post of Pilot Knob.

MAY 8, 1864.—Skirmish near Maysville, Ark.

Report of Col. William A. Phillips, Third Indian Home Guard.

FORT SCOTT, KANS., *May* 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. J. MCKEAN, *Paola, Kans.:*

I have received the following news in a letter from Colonel Phillips, dated at Fort Gibson on the 10th instant:

Captain Anderson, with a small command from this place, who was out on a reconnaissance after Adair, had a fight on the 8th with a portion of the rebel forces 10 miles northeast of Maysville. The rebels lost 6 killed. Anderson has 2 badly wounded. River here falling.

WM. A. PHILLIPS,
Colonel, Commanding.

C. W. BLAIR,
Colonel, &c.

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* On May 8.

MAY 9–10, 1864.—Scout from American Ranch to Cedar Bluffs, Colo.

Report of Maj. Jacob Downing, First Colorado Cavalry.

AMERICAN RANCH, *May* 11, 1864.

COLONEL: My scouts having reported on the 9th instant that a body of Cheyennes had again taken possession of the cañon at Cedar Bluffs, where a few days since I reported to you that I had skirmished with them, and that several war parties had been seen in the vicinity of the Platte, and in one instance having attacked a ranch and were driven off, I immediately prepared a command to go again to the cañon, feeling that in that manner only could I drive them from the river and remove the danger. Therefore, on the 9th instant, at 2 p. m., with about 80 men, I marched 20 miles down the Platte to Moore & Chesby's ranch, when, after halting till 6 p. m. of the same day, started for the cañon, about 40 miles distant, and reached it about daylight in the morning; but the Indians, determined not to be surprised this time, decamped, leaving all their lodges, fourteen in number, cooking utensils, about 130 saddles, and in fact everything belonging to them, not even excepting their dried meats, &c., all of which I destroyed. Shortly afterward I discovered a large encampment of Sioux Indians, who informed me that they were desirous of peace, and that the Cheyennes, having abandoned everything, they believed before they stopped for any time would go to Powder River; that they (the Cheyennes) had applied to the Sioux for assistance to fight the soldiers, and that they (the Sioux) had refused to join them, when the Cheyennes in their fright determined to seek safety in flight. The Sioux thought that a war party of the Cheyennes, about 25 in number, had gone to the Platte to steal horses in order to make their escape more certain.

In order to stop their depredations on the river, after halting two hours, I determined to reach the river as soon as possible, when, after a rapid march, reached the Platte about 8 p. m. on the evening of the 10th instant, where I learned that Indians had been seen during the afternoon, and that the settlers apprehended trouble. I immediately ordered out patrols, and up to the present time everything is quiet as far as I have been able to learn. I can form no estimate of the time it will take to entirely subdue these depredators, but think that everything thus far is favorable to a speedy adjustment of this difficulty, provided the pursuit is, for a short time hence, vigorously maintained.

I intend ordering Lieutenant Chase with his detachment to report for duty to Camp Sanborn, and Lieutenant Murrell with his detachment to the Junction station, 34 miles up the river, when I think the road to Denver from this will be comparatively safe. I intend starting to-morrow morning for Denver to talk with you regarding this affair, if it meets your approval. If you should not approve my coming, telegraph me at the Junction.

Hoping, sir, that what I have done will meet your approval, I remain, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. DOWNING,
Major, First Colorado Cavalry.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
First Colorado Cavalry, Comdg. District.

MAY 9–JUNE 3, 1864.—The Gila (Arizona) Expedition.

Report of Capt. Thomas T. Tidball, Fifth California Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS GILA EXPEDITION,
Tucson, Ariz., June 5, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the troops under my command composing the Gila expedition: The force, consisting of Second Lieut. George Dutton, 35 men of Company K and 10 men of Company C, Fifth Infantry California Volunteers; Second Lieut. H. H. Stevens and 41 men of Company I, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers, and 16 men of Companies C and L, First Cavalry, California Volunteers, was organized at Fort Bowie, in accordance with your instructions, and marched on the 9th ultimo with twenty-five days' rations on pack-mules.

The command proceeded along the southern base of the Chiricahua Mountains to a point about 20 miles northwest of Fort Bowie; thence northerly across those mountains and the valley connecting the Valley del Sauz and the Playa de los Pimas, through the eastern point of the Sierras Bonito to the Cienega Bonito, near the base of Mount Graham, where it arrived on the 12th.

First Lieut. George A. Burkett, commanding Company I, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers, Asst. Surg. P. H. Cox, medical officer of the expedition, and myself, having been detained on special duty, left Tucson on the evening of the 9th, and with a detachment of 7 men, Company F, First Cavalry, California Volunteers, overtook the command on the evening of the 13th at the Cienega Bonito. From the Cienega the command moved to the Gila, and thence up the valley of the Gila to within a few miles of the mouth of the Rio Bonito. Here it crossed to the north side of the Gila, and passing northeast for 8 or 9 miles, struck the Rio Bonito about 6 miles above its mouth. From our camp on this stream 7 men of the First Cavalry, California Volunteers, were dispatched on the 17th with an express to Fort Bowie. Following up the Bonito we entered a broad, fine valley stretching off to the northwest, and passing down the south side of this valley, encamped at some small springs on the evening of the 17th. At 9 p. m. that night, with Lieuts. Burkett and Stevens and a force of 60 men, I marched, in compliance with your verbal instructions, 10 miles to some water-tanks, with the hope of finding Indians there, but was disappointed. Marching southwesterly over a rough chain of mountains we crossed the Gila and encamped on the south side, near the mouth of the Tulerosa, on the 20th. On the 21st, Lieutenant Burkett and 35 men were sent to escort you in your examination of the Tulerosa and Mount Graham passes. I remained in camp on the Gila with the main force, and Lieutenant Burkett and party returned on the 24th.

On the 25th, the whole force moved down the south side of the Gila about 25 miles and encamped a few miles above the mouth of the San Carlos. On the 26th, we discovered smoke on the San Carlos, and in accordance with your instructions I organized a party of 85 men, and with Lieutenants Burkett and Dutton marched at 9 p. m. for the San Carlos. Lieutenant Stevens was left in charge of camp, with instructions to move at daybreak to the San Carlos and encamp near its mouth. We reached the river about midnight and moved cautiously up the valley. A little before daybreak we discovered a fire and heard the barking of a dog in the brush. Owing

to the darkness and dense growth of underbrush it was impossible to ascertain the size or location of the rancheria, and fearing that the continued barking of the dog would alarm the Indians and enable them to make their escape before it became light, the infantry was ordered to advance in line into the thicket. We had proceeded but a few rods when we discovered a hut and opened fire upon it, wounding 1 Indian, who, before death, informed the interpreter that there was another rancheria a short distance above on the river. There was but a single hut here, and 3 or 4 Indians had escaped in the darkness through the brush. We killed 1 Indian and captured 1 child.

Lieutenant Burkett with his company was ordered to advance rapidly up the left bank of the river, and I, with Lieutenant Dutton, Company K and detachment of Company C, moved up the right bank. We discovered the tracks of Indians going up the river, and after advancing rapidly for 2½ miles, I became satisfied that the Indians would be alarmed before we could possibly reach them, and ordered the infantry to return. The detachment of cavalry, under special orders from yourself, having moved rapidly up the river in advance discovered a small rancheria about 5 miles above, but the Indians had been alarmed by one escaped from the lower rancheria, and had succeeded in getting nearly out of range. The cavalry fired upon them and killed 1. They burned their huts and everything of value about them, and destroyed several acres of corn. In this skirmish First Sergt. Christian Foster, Company K, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers, received a painful, though not dangerous, wound in the knee from a spent minie-musket ball. After a short rest the whole command moved down the river about 5 miles, where we found Lieutenant Stevens with the train. In the afternoon our guides captured a woman and two children. She was living alone and had several acres of fine corn. This was destroyed under your special direction.

As you had previously determined to move upon a rancheria supposed to be in the Mescal Mountains, on the 28th we moved down the San Carlos to its mouth, and thence down the Gila to near the entrance of the Great Cañon. Here, discovering the fresh tracks of an Indian in the trail, I halted the command and sent my scouts forward to reconnoiter. The scouts advanced about a half a mile and discovered and captured 5 women and 2 children. They said they were living alone near the Gila and that their husbands were in the Mescal Mountains. From them we learned something of the distance to, and location of, the rancherias. We moved down the cañon of the Gila for several miles and encamped at 11 a. m. Here I received your instructions to organize a force to move upon and surprise the rancherias that night. Accordingly a detail of 70 infantry and 10 cavalry was made for this duty, and at 4 p. m. the whole command moved down the Gila 4 or 5 miles, and crossing several sharp ridges to the northwest, encamped upon a small rivulet not far from the river. Lieutenant Dutton was ordered to remain here in charge of the train and to move on the trail of the advance party at daybreak. At 9 p. m. the force detailed marched for the rancherias, taking with them one of the captured women as a guide. The trail for about 2½ miles led up an immense rocky mountain, from the summit of which we could see the cañon in which the rancherias were situated. Near the summit of this mountain we halted until the moon rose. Having learned from the Indian woman that there were two rancherias

situated about a mile apart, I was instructed by you to divide the force and attack both simultaneously at daybreak. As the horses could not be taken down the mountain without danger of alarming the Indians, the cavalry detachment was ordered to remain on the mountain.

At 12.30 a. m. on the 29th, Lieutenant Burkett was ordered to proceed to the upper rancheria and attack it at daybreak. For the detail of the attack upon the upper rancheria, I respectfully refer you to the accompanying report* of Lieutenant Burkett. At the same time I moved down the mountain upon another trail, with 32 men of Company K and 5 men of C, to attack the lower rancheria. After passing down the mountain for half a mile I halted my command and sent my scouts forward to reconnoiter. I remained in this position until nearly daybreak, and then proceeded down the mountain and got position under cover of some brush within 200 yards of their huts. A fire was burning near one of them and an Indian sitting near it. I sent Sergeant Brown, of Company K, with 15 men to enter the cañon below and cut off their retreat down the cañon, hoping if they escaped us to force them upon Lieutenant Burkett's command. I now advanced with the balance of my command through a corn-field to within 50 yards of their huts without being discovered and opened fire upon them. These huts were situated on a mesa some 30 or 40 feet above the creek, and I now discovered that the main portion of the rancheria was along the creek in the bottom of the cañon. The inmates of the lower huts had commenced a precipitate retreat down the cañon, seeing which, Sergeant Brown took his party forward on a run, met them with a volley, killed some and turned the rest back up the cañon and up the steep open mountain on the opposite side, thus exposing them to the fire of my whole force. Not more than 7 Indians escaped, and 4 of these, from the blood on their trails, were known to be wounded. The only one who escaped down the cañon was afterward trailed by his blood for half a mile and killed. He had an ivory-handled Colt revolver with the name of John B. Mills, jr., engraved upon the handle. He was recognized by the Indian woman as a leading chief named Ska-ish-nah, and said to be known to the Mexicans and Americans by the name of Skid-na-ha. In twenty minutes from the commencement of the action not a live Indian was to be seen. The result was 36 killed, 4 wounded, and 2 prisoners, and no casualty on our side. We captured $660 in gold coin, 1 Sharps carbine, 1 Colt revolver, 1 double-barreled shotgun, 1 fine California saddle, 1 pair saddlebags, 1 bridle, 1 headstall, 1 small box musket caps, 1 box pistol caps, 2 powder-horns containing a little powder, about 1,000 pounds mescal, and several baskets of wheat. The caps were distributed among the men. A portion of the mescal was retained to ration our prisoners to Tucson, and the balance, with a large number of bows and arrows and a great quantity of trash, valuable only to the Indians, was placed upon the huts and burned. Lieutenant Dutton with the train arrived at 9 a. m., and Lieutenant Burkett and command at 11 a. m. The whole force was encamped on the edge of the corn and wheat fields, and all the animals turned upon the crops. In the afternoon Lieutenant Dutton with a small party destroyed several acres of corn, beans, melons, &c., about a mile from our camp.

On the 30th, the command again marched, and encamped on the San Pedro, near old Fort Breckinridge, on the morning of the 1st

* Not found.

of June. Here I received your instructions to take such force as I deemed proper and make a secret move up the Arivaypa, with a view to surprise a rancheria, supposed to be located there, destroy crops, &c., and to send all the troops and animals not needed for this expedition, under charge of an officer, direct to Tucson. Accordingly, Lieutenant Burkett and 25 men of Company I, Lieutenant Dutton, 23 men of Company K and 3 men of Company C, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers, and 6 men of Company L, First Cavalry, California Volunters, were detailed for this duty, and Lieutenant Stevens sent to Tucson with the balance of the command and train. Leaving our camp in charge of the detachment of cavalry we marched at 8 p. m. up the Arivaypa. The trail much of the way was exceedingly difficult to travel at night, being through a dense growth of underbrush and obstructed in many places by trees which the Indians had fallen across it.

We reached the Indian farms a little before daylight on the morning of the 2d, but found no Indians. A careful examination after daylight showed that none had lived in this part of the cañon for a long time. Six Indians were seen on a high mountain out of range of our muskets. Longino, the Apache guide, held a conversation with them in which they requested that we would not destroy their wheat, as they needed it for food. There was about ten acres of fine wheat and four or five of corn, melons, &c. The wheat was so green it would not burn, and I had no other means of destroying it. After resting a few hours we marched back to camp, where we arrived at 1 p. m. We had marched 30 miles in going to and returning from the farms and forded the Arivaypa thirty-six times.

On the morning of the 3d, we marched for Tucson, where we arrived on the afternoon of the 4th, having been twenty-six days in the field. The total results of our operations are: Indians killed, 51; wounded, 17; prisoners, 16 women and children. Property captured, $660 in gold coin, 1 mule, 3 horses, 2 Sharps carbines, 1 double-barreled shotgun, 1 Colt revolver, 2 saddles, 2 pairs of saddlebags, 1 bridle, 1 headstall, 2 lances, 4 boxes caps, and 4 powderhorns. Property destroyed, 1 ton mescal, 30 acres of wheat, corn, beans, &c., and a large number of bows and arrows. The only casualty in my command was the accidental wounding of Sergeant Foster.

The death of the two chiefs, As-calt-chu-ash and Skid-na-ha, and the destruction of their crops must be a serious blow to these Indians. Though these bands are perhaps no worse than others of the race, it is particularly gratifying to know that justice has overtaken the murderers of Mills and Stevens.

The conduct of both officers and men, in their patient endurance of hardships and privations and zeal in seeking the wily Apaches, is worthy of all praise. I deem it my duty to specially acknowledge my appreciation of the good conduct of Sergt. Charles Brown, of Company K, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers. His quick perception of the position and prompt action conduced much to the almost total destruction of the Indians in the lower rancheria.

I have the honor to remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. T. TIDBALL,
Capt. Fifth Infy., Cal. Vols., Comdg. Troops Gila Exp.

Lieut. Col. NELSON H. DAVIS,
Assistant Inspector-General, U. S. Army.

May 10–25, 1864.—Scout from Pilot Knob, Mo., to Gainesville, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. John F. Tyler, First Missouri State Militia Infantry.
No. 2.—Capt. Herman J. Huiskamp, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. John F. Tyler, First Missouri State Militia Infantry.

PILOT KNOB, MO., *May* 25, 1864.

My scout has just returned from Gainesville, Ark. No regular force was met at any place, but bushwhackers in abundance. Five were killed and some wounded. They run Reves and his command, and ate a dinner that was prepared for him on Black River. Captured a rebel mail and the carrier; nothing of importance in it. Destroyed a supply of medicines stored up by the rebels valued at about $10,000; captured and destroyed many shotguns, rifles, and a considerable amount of ammunition. Got into Gainesville just twenty-four hours after Kitchen, with several of his officers left there. Officers and men had a pretty severe time, but stood it well. Our only casualty was the wounding of Captain Johns by some guerrillas while he was in camp at Scatterville, Ark. I think the country has been more thoroughly scoured this time than ever before.

J. F. TYLER,
Colonel, Commanding.

Lieut. HARRISON HANNAHS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Herman J. Huiskamp, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

BLOOMFIELD, MO., *May* 21, 1864.

I have arrived all O. K. I formed a junction with Captain Johns on the 18th instant. Both of the commands entered Gainesville at the same time. Captain Johns killed some of Reves' men, and captured and destroyed over $10,000 worth of medicines. On our return, and while in camp near Scatterville, Ark., Captain Johns was shot by guerrillas, a ball passing through and shattering his left arm. He was also wounded in the hip. The country around Gainesville swarms with guerrillas, but no organized force is there; in fact, could not subsist. The command is weary, hungry, and worn out, and many of the horses need shoeing, and unless otherwise ordered I will remain here until day after to-morrow.

H. J. HUISKAMP,
Captain, Commanding.

Col. J. F. TYLER.

MAY 13, 1864.—Skirmish at Spavinaw, Ark.

Report of Maj. Milton Burch, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEOSHO, MO., *May* 14, 1864.

SIR: For the information of the commanding general, I have the honor of reporting the operations of a scout made under my imme-

diate command on Grand River, Cowskin, and Spavinaw. I started from this post on the 10th instant with 40 mounted men and 20 men on foot; the men on foot were under the command of Capt. John R. Kelso and Capt. Ozias Ruark.

On the third day the infantry returned back to this post. I moved on in the direction of Spavinaw, which point I reached on the night of the 13th.

About 11 o'clock on the night of the 13th I discovered the camp-fires of the enemy, but thinking it might be Colonel Allen's camp I deferred attacking them till I reconnoitered and ascertained who they were. I still intended to defer the attack till morning, but after due deliberation, and having passed some houses with families living there, I knew that they would have a good chance to get information of my whereabouts. I resolved to attack them. I dismounted my men and moved slowly and cautiously to where I thought their picket might be stationed, but found none. I then gave the order to charge, which was obeyed promptly; the enemy being some in their beds and some lazily lounging by their fires. When we had thoroughly penetrated their camp there was a general skedaddle, leaving 22 head of horses, 10 stand of arms, saddles, pants, hats, shoes; in fact, everything pertaining to make them comfortable. We only succeeded in killing 2 of the gang and wounding several more. The squad, 30 in number, came in with Colonel Adair, and belonged to the Second Cherokee Indian Regiment. From my observation and what I could learn, there are about 100 or 150 men all told. I intend starting another party in a few days to ascertain more correctly their numbers and give them a thrashing.

With respect, I remain, your most obedient servant,

MILTON BURCH,
Major, Comdg. Batt., Eighth Cav., Missouri State Militia.

Adjutant-General,
Springfield.

MAY 13, 1864.—Skirmish near Cuba, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Odon Guitar, Missouri State Militia.

Rolla, Mo., *May* 13, 1864.

Sixteen of the Fifteenth Missouri State Militia and a small party of Enrolled Missouri Militia, suddenly called together, fell upon a party of 30 guerrillas going north, 6 miles northeast of Cuba, at 1 o'clock p. m. to-day. The rebels had dismounted to get dinner when they were surprised and fired upon by our men. Two were killed, and several horses, a number of guns, saddles, blankets, &c., captured. They were scattered and still being pursued at last accounts. My impression is that the party were moving north with the design of crossing the Missouri River.

O. GUITAR,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. Greene,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 13-31, 1864.—Shelby's operations north of the Arkansas River.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

May 13, 1864.—Skirmish at Cypress Creek, Perry County.
15, 1864.—Skirmish near Dardanelle.
17, 1864.—Capture of Dardanelle.
19, 1864.—Skirmish near Norristown.
25, 1864.—Skirmish at Buck Horn.
27, 1864.—Shelby assumes command of all troops north of the Arkansas River.

REPORTS, ETC.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, including operations May 5-June 27.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army.
No. 3.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of First Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, for May, 1864.
No. 4.—Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union), of skirmish at Cypress Creek.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, including operations May 5-June 27.

HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,
Fifteen miles South of Arkansas River, May 15, 1864.

COLONEL: On the morning of the 13th, I arrived on the Arkansas River 5 miles below Lewisburg, at the Widow Brown's Ford, and found a 12-foot rise in the river, with the current heavy and strong. I had traveled from my camp to the river in a little over three days, although the roads were terribly rough and forage and subsistence a myth. The river was approached very cautiously, for 1 mile below the ford a camp of Federals was discovered and Lewisburg was in sight above. Nevertheless I made instant preparations for crossing. The boat I carried up from Camp Bullock was added to by another gotten on Fourche la Fave, and with the two I made the venture, hazardous as it was. By sundown everything was ready, when 400 Federals crossed over from Lewisburg and made a sharp, vigorous attack upon my outlying pickets. I re-enforced them with five companies, not willing to show a man more than necessary, for the Federals took us for guerrillas and I wished to favor the delusion. By dark they were all driven back with a loss of 40 killed and wounded, while I lost but 1 slightly wounded, and I then put the two boats into the river and sent over about 100 men with arms as infantry, and these were followed by 100 volunteer swimmers with their horses for scouts. The two boat-loads had scarcely got well over when the futile and weakened efforts of the horses convinced me that it was utterly impossible for them to stem the rapid and resistless current, together with the deep and treacherous quicksands on both shores. To ferry them over was the work of two and a half or three days with the two little boats, and I determined not to risk it, for these reasons: The Federals at Lewisburg would know our intentions by daylight. Thayer's division had just passed up, six transports preceding my arrival only some ten hours, and I was ignorant whether

he had halted at Dardanelle or Lewisburg; and, worse than all, nothing could be obtained for men and horses where I was, and I was unwilling to risk my command to be attacked when one part could not succor the other, so I recalled those I had sent over, and the next morning (the 14th) marched southward 15 miles, and am now on my way higher up to cross, which I expect to do, Providence permitting, in two days. I am sure Thayer's division has gone to Fort Smith. They had artillery and a few negroes with them. You will hear from me again shortly.

Very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS SHELBY'S BRIGADE,
May 31, 1864.

After my last communication to you from the neighborhood of Clarksville, Ark., I pushed on rapidly to White River, across the Boston Mountain by way of Clinton and Riggsville. The roads were horribly rough, rugged, and entirely destitute of forage and subsistence, being infested by swarms of innumerable robbers and Federal jayhawkers and guerrillas. Sending out constant and trusty scouting parties under tried leaders, I taught them a stern and bitter lesson, not soon to be forgotten, and drove them far into their mountain recesses, with the loss of many killed, some of them their most notorious leaders.

As you are aware, my command for fifty days before it left on this expedition had been in constant and severe service. The horses were mostly unshod and weak, and the artillery animals greatly reduced on the march from the Ouachita to this place, over the worst roads in the world. A great many gave out by the wayside; horses fell dead in the artillery traces; the miserable mules furnished by too economical quartermasters for my ordnance train died from sheer exhaustion, and the crazy, ramshackle wagons wheezed out a miserable existence where the eternal shadows of the gloomy mountains told of desolation and despair. Twice the iron axle of one of my rifled guns broke clear in two, and I was forced to haul it in one of the wagons; but by hard work and hard marching White River was safely reached and crossed 12 miles above Batesville May 26. Six days before my arrival the Federal garrison at this town, consisting of the First Nebraska Cavalry, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, and the renegade Baxter's crew of Confederate deserters, had gone to Jacksonport, taking with them some 200 refugee families. I intended to march immediately upon this town, but they, hearing of my approach, made a hasty embarkation upon seven transports, convoyed by a mosquito gun-boat (the Naumkeag), and hurried away down the river. Running aground on Reed's Bar, at Grand Glaise, they were forced to unload before getting over. Learning this, I determined to overtake them if possible, and leaving Batesville at 2 o'clock in the evening, and marching all night, reached Grand Glaise about sunrise, but the boats were gone several hours before, and my long ride (over 30 miles) must go for naught.

The condition of this country is and has been pitiable in the extreme; Confederate soldiers in nothing save the name, robbers, and jayhawkers have vied with the Federals in plundering, devouring, and wasting the substance of loyal Southerners, and new cruelties have been devised to torture from unwilling lips the secret of some hidden treasure. The entire valley is swept bare of forage and subsistence, and there are hundreds of families that must suffer for bread. I am forced for the first time in the history of the war to graze my horses and feed my men on meat alone. In three weeks the wheat crop will be ready for use; but until that time we shall be compelled to live on meat alone. The condition of the so-called Confederate forces here was horrible in the extreme—no organization, no concentration, no discipline, no law, no leader, no anything. The seeds of cotton speculating, horse stealing, illicit and pernicious trading with the Federals was carried on with a high hand, thereby debauching the officers and demoralizing the men. They were scattered from Yellville to Helena, from the Missouri line to the Arkansas River, 5 and 6 at a house, sweltering in the hot fumes of Memphis whisky, and riding rough-shod over defenseless families on stolen horses, while predatory bands of Federals, unmolested and unfought, roamed about like devouring wolves and swept whole neighborhoods at a breath. Many good Southern families fled to the various posts for protection, and they were not to blame. Thus was the country devoured; and now when a regular Confederate force comes up to their help they find an enemy worse than armed men—starvation.

I have entered upon the duties before me with a full knowledge of the difficulties, but with a consciousness of the rectitude of my intentions and the good of my country. I have, in obedience to orders from General Price, proclaimed my instructions, exhorted the men by a common brotherhood and our glorious victories to come up now to our triumphant banner, and promised them arms and ammunition. I have ordered Rutherford, Freeman, McCray, Adams, and Dobbin to report to me immediately, when I shall lay the programme before them and exhort them to energy and determination in the new line of policy. Already a great reformation is going on. I have told the men and officers that the time for trading with the Federals, lying out and dodging the service, and plundering the country is over. I have told them that we came to help them organize; help them drive out the Federals, and that they must and should put their shoulders to the wheel; and I told them, finally, calmly, and in sober good earnest, that all who refused to come, and still evinced a desire to desolate their country and their friends, I would either drive them to the Federals or I would kill them like excommunicated felons, and by the help of God I shall do either one or the other. It will be a blessing and a speeding to our cause.

Three hundred recruits have already come in, and I believe in two weeks more I can organize 3,000. Jackman goes bravely on recruiting, and Coffee will have a full regiment in a short time. Major Rutherford, the only fighting man in all this country, will have a splendid battalion in a few days. They all have horses, but arms are badly needed, which I shall try very hard to take for them when my command gets on its feet again. It will be ten or fifteen days before I can make any demonstrations against the railroad, for the reasons that my horses are completely worn out, unshod, unfed,

and must have rest, and because I must take a little time to organize and straighten out the odds and ends of a good but demoralized and scattered command. It is reported that the Federals are leaving Little Rock, but of this I am not yet satisfied. At all events, they are sending large bodies of infantry to Devall's Bluff from Little Rock, and heavy scouts are watching the country from Des Arc to Searcy. This all may be to anticipate our attack upon the railroad, but it looks very much like an evacuation. I will know, however, in a few days. The Federals that occupied Batesville and Jacksonport were very much demoralized and a great many deserted, some joining my command. I had a scout in Lewisburg in five hours after my last communication to you. After the fight I had with them, after crossing the river at Dardanelle, they evacuated Lewisburg in haste and fled in disorder to Little Rock. A great many goods were left there, but they were placed in houses where the small-pox was raging, and the men left them unmolested and untouched. This terrible disease was raging with great violence in this town, every home nearly being a hospital. Everything now is encouraging. The Federals have evacuated every post above Little Rock on the river except Fort Smith. The news from Virginia is glorious beyond the most sanguine expectation. After ten days' terrible fighting General Grant has been forced to change his base, which means falling back, and General Lee is now pressing upon him. This is certain beyond the possibility of a doubt. I write you this long communication, colonel, thus fully, freely, and frankly, because I wish General Price to understand exactly how matters stand in his district, so that he will be able, as I know he will, to apply the proper remedies. I believe that by taking a firm, decided, and resolute stand, and carrying out my intentions without fear or favor, I will be able to redeem this county and add 3,000 or 4,000 good men to our army.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Troops.

Lieut. Col. J. F. Belton,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Camden, Ark.

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Headquarters Shelby's Division,
December —, 1864.

Colonel: The following report contains a full account of my operations north of White River, which I now have the honor of laying before you: On May 5, 1864, immediately after the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, I received orders to march to the rear of General Steele's army, occupy the valley of White River, and prevent its navigation and the use of the Little Rock and Devall's Bluff Railroad in every possible manner and fashion.

Delay in getting ammunition and transportation prevented me from moving until the 9th, when, after an unusually hard day's march, I encamped in Rockport, and thence on by heavy traveling to the Arkansas River. My horses were much reduced by the unusually vigorous campaign preceding my departure, and being mostly unshod suffered much from the rough and rugged country passed over. Although my command had contributed largely to the

capture of several hundred wagons at Marks' Mills, yet the tender consciences of worthy quartermasters in and around Camden were so horribly shocked when my requisition was to be filled that skeleton mules and wheezy and ramshackle wagons were all that could be furnished me. Some of these died on the mountains of Fourche la Fave, and one-third of the crazy vehicles never reached the Arkansas River.

On the Fourche la Fave River a notorious nest of jayhawkers, boomers, and deserters were surprised, routed, 23 killed, 2 wounded, and 2 captured, who were shot next day. I reached the river on the 13th and found it very high and wide. I had brought with me one flat-boat, and finding one there I concluded to cross. This was 3 miles below Lewisburg, garrisoned by 400 Federals, and I hid my command as closely as possible, with vedettes and foot guards around the entire camp, and waited for the coming night. The enemy would not let me rest quietly. A large scout pushed in my pickets on the Lewisburg road and seemed determined to push into my very camp. I did not want to fight them then, for I knew by crossing the river unawares I could capture garrison, supplies, and all, and if they found out my purpose I should have trouble in getting over; therefore, only resisting hard enough to keep them off, I succeeded in keeping up the impression that only a large force of guerrillas were in the neighborhood; but they paid for their temerity by 1 lieutenant and 35 men killed and wounded, without loss on my part.

When night came I moved my command down to the river; called for 100 volunteer swimmers, who came with great eagerness, and filling one boat with picked riflemen, sent them, under command of Col. Benjamin Elliott, on a voyage of discovery. Right opposite where I proposed crossing was a large bar, opposite the bar an island, and between the island and mainland a deep stream filled with quicksand. All these facts I did not know, and when Colonel Elliott had reported and the swimmers all returned with long faces, I destroyed the boats, struck back squarely from the river, and made a wide detour for Dardanelle, knowing it was a much better and safer crossing.

On the 15th, my advance charged a scouting party of boomers on a general foray, killed 21; none wounded or captured.

I fed 9 miles from town on the 16th, where 400 Federals were posted, determined to march on that night, invest the place, and charge it at daylight. All went well until about 12 o'clock in the night, when my extreme vedettes ran into the advance of a Federal force. Both parties fired sharply for several minutes, when the enemy fled toward Dardanelle. I knew now that all hopes of surprise were over, and I determined to charge directly into the place, dark as it was. Following up the fleeing foe, who made several sudden stands in the midnight hours, I galloped straight into the town and found it evacuated by all but 100 of the garrison, who made no resistance. Many supplies were taken, and the Federals in their frantic efforts to escape overloaded a frail flat-boat, and many of them were lost in the swollen river, their cries ringing wildly out on the night air for help and succor. Making instant preparations to cross, two large and commodious boats were obtained, and the crossing commenced immediately.

By the evening of the 18th, everything was safely over and I encamped at Norristown. The next morning my pickets were fired into briskly, but upon throwing out re-enforcements the enemy were

soon driven away, it being only a party sent up from Lewisburg to watch operations. Hearing of the capture of Dardanelle and the subsequent crossing of the river, the garrison hastily evacuated Lewisburg, retreating to Little Rock, leaving everything behind them. I sent a scout into the town, but the small-pox was raging there so malignantly that nothing was taken, although my command greatly needed supplies.

Being satisfied that great numbers of men were at home in the mountains beyond the Arkansas—men who were deserters, yet pardoned by President Davis' proclamation—I gave Colonels Jackman and Coffee authority to raise one or more regiments, besides recruiting powers to fifty or more captains for companies, and hastened on to White River, knowing a large force would be sent up from Little Rock to intercept me in the mountain gorges of the Ozark. The Federals at Clarksville left in dismay, and the wave of terror spread even unto Yellville and Forsyth. On through Dover and Clinton, over rough and sterile roads, over the Blue and Ozark Mountains, through Richwoods and Buck Horn, I hastened forward. At the latter place the notorious Bill Williams, who commands a company of hybrid deserters, negroes, women-ravishers, and Federals, was encountered by Capt. D. A. Williams, of my advance, charged, routed, scattered, and 47 killed, 2 captured, who were shot next day. Young girls and old women met us the next day and called down Heaven's blessing on my command for what they termed a glorious and a righteous deed.

Crossing White River safely on the 26th at O'Neil's Ferry, 20 miles west of Batesville, I arrived in the town about nightfall, finding it entirely abandoned by the enemy, who had heard of my approach several days before. There was no forage whatever in the country. My command was almost worn out and I determined to rest here one week to recuperate everything; but on the 28th, news came in that the Federal garrison at Jacksonport, having taken boats for Devall's Bluff, were hard aground at Grand Glaise. I moved in an hour, marched all night, and reached the coveted point early the next morning, but the prize had escaped, having gotten off the night before and hurried down the river. I found the entire country overrun with able-bodied men; recruiting officers quarreling or sunk in total apathy; predatory bands of thieves roaming over the country at will, killing some, burning the feet of others, and all hungering with the lust of robbery; one officer refusing to report to another, no organizations, no discipline, no arms, no leader, no desire to fight, no anything. I immediately ordered every man who claimed authority to report to me and told them plainly my orders; exhorted them to become united, and gave them to understand that I was after every man subject to military duty; that I would hang tories and jayhawkers, protect the people, and by the help of God it should be done. McCray, Dobbin, Freeman, Rutherford, and all put their shoulders to the wheel manfully, and soon from all over the hills and up from the swamps a vast stream of volunteers and conscripts came into camp with a determination to make good soldiers. I lingered in the soft spring weather between Batesville and Jacksonport, waiting for my command to regain its élan and their horses their strength. Captain Langhorne, who had been sent to Searcy to look out for a large force of Federals that had gone to Clinton to cut off my approach to Batesville, but were a day too late, ran into their approaching column, and with his little com-

pany fought them half an hour, killing and wounding 17. The rainy season had now set in, and all the lowlands below Jacksonport were under water; but on the 15th I started for Clarendon, on White River, determining to see what was going on there. The march was terrible. Cache and Bayou De View bottoms were on an average 3 feet deep, but struggling through I reached the vicinity of Clarendon on the 23d, and found the gun-boat Queen City lying off the place. Placing pickets on every road, and arresting every man, woman, and child who came out and all who came in, I kept my proximity silent as the grave. Determining to attack it and surprise it if possible, I waited until 12 o'clock at night, moved the artillery to within a mile by horses, unlimbered and dragged the guns up to within 50 feet of the boat, covered all bridges with weeds, carried the ammunition by hand to the guns, dismounted my entire brigade, stationed them along the bank, and waited for the coming daylight.

It was a beautiful moonlit night. White, fleecy clouds hovered over the sleeping river, over the doomed craft with all her gala lights in bloom, and over the crouching lines of infantry and the yawning cannon. The silence was broken only by the measured tread of the sentinels and the deep striking of the time-bell. Just as the white hand of morning put away the sable clouds of night four pieces of artillery sent their terrible messengers crashing through the boat. Then the infantry opened with terrific effect, and in ten minutes the Queen City was a helpless wreck upon the water, her captain surrendering unconditionally. With this capture there fell into my hands her splendid armament of 9 guns—6 30-pounder Parrotts, 2 beautiful Dahlgren boat howitzers, and 1 24-pounder howitzer, with all kinds of the best ammunition—60 officers and seamen, large quantities of supplies and clothing. Everything that could be removed was taken off. The two Dahlgren guns placed in position on the bank to help blockade the river, with plenty of ammunition. The magazine was opened, a train laid, and in ten seconds the unfortunate boat was blown into a thousand fragments, the splinters and pieces of iron and wood coming down for hours. I hated to see the six splendid guns go down, but no time was left to tarry over an effort to secure them.

I had scarcely changed the position of my battery, got volunteers for the new guns, and reformed my infantry when the shrill whistling of three boats above warned me to be on the alert. Very soon the Tyler, the Grace [Fawn], and the Naumkeag, three formidable gunboats, came round the bend and opened furiously upon me. For two hours the conflict lasted. Without shelter, on an open levee, my gunners stood to their pieces, and the infantry lines charged up to the bank of the river and kept the port-holes closed for a while. I now learned that their vast superiority of metal was telling heavily on my command, and with the two new guns dismounted, and the Tyler within 50 yards vomiting bushels of grape and canister at every discharge, I withdrew in fine order from the unequal contest, the gun-boats patrolling the river until night. They were severely handled in the contest. The Tyler received thirteen shots through her, the Grace [Fawn] was towed off, and the Naumkeag was reported sunk while being towed to Devall's Bluff.

The next day I threw up some rifle-pits and earth-works, which were shelled furiously and the working party driven off.

Early on the 26th, a fleet of transports, convoyed by three more gun-boats, bringing 3,000 infantry and 2,000 cavalry, came down to release the death-grip upon the river. The iron-clads covered the landing of the troops, and I took position just beyond range, driving them back three times. Each time they came back largely re-enforced, until I found it useless to prolong the contest and fell back slowly before them. They followed me all day eagerly, but I kept up an unbroken rear, and they suffered severely.

The next day they grew bolder and charged two or three times quite vigorously, when, becoming tired of their incessant attacks, and getting clear of the miry and swimming stream of Bayou De View, I massed three regiments rapidly, charged their advance, and drove it pell-mell back upon the main body, which also took to flight and ran 10 miles, throwing away guns, overcoats, hats, and blankets. General Carr followed no farther, and I continued on unmolested. Colonel Dobbin was instructed to leave a large force upon White River between Saint Charles and Clarendon and annoy the navigation of that stream in every possible shape, which he faithfully did.

The expedition to Clarendon nearly used up all my horses, living on nothing but grass, and the rain continued without intermission for three weeks.

* * * * * * *

My thanks are earnestly due to all my officers and men for their courage and devotion and their eagerness at all times to meet the enemy.

Hoping this report will prove satisfactory, I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Expedition.

Maj. L. A. MACLEAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Arkansas.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph R. West, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., May 28, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following movements: Pursuant to instructions of the 19th instant from the general commanding, "to organize a force, to consist of the Twelfth Michigan, Fifty-fourth, Sixty-first, and One hundred and sixth Illinois, Marr's battery, and all the cavalry now (then) out north of the river and railroad, to protect [the latter," the three first-named regiments of infantry and Marr's battery crossed to the railroad depot, north side of the river, opposite Little Rock, on the 19th instant. The district commander's verbal orders were given to me that afternoon to move them to Brownsville. Defective arrangements for railroad transportation prevented the command, including the One hundred and sixth Illinois, coming from the direction of Devall's Bluff, from uniting at Brownsville until noon of the 20th instant. The force that my command was to oppose was understood to be the rebels under Shelby, who, after crossing the Arkansas at Dardanelle, was

expected to move southeast toward the railroad. I determined to move out and meet the enemy. For this purpose more rations were needed, and they were not furnished to me until the 21st instant, at too late an hour to move on that day. Colonel Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry, after evacuating Lewisburg, had fallen back to Cadron Ferry. On the 19th instant I dispatched an aide to him with the following orders:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Little Rock, Ark., May 19, 1864.

Col. A. H. RYAN,
Third Arkansas Cavalry, in the Field:

By Special Orders, No. 7, from headquarters District of Little Rock, all the cavalry now on expedition north of the river and railroad are under my control. Continue to act as directed by Special Orders, No. 5, from district headquarters. Cover all the front between the railroad and the enemy. Send information to Brownsville and to my headquarters here. Harass and delay the enemy by all means in your power. I shall be at Brownsville to-night with a force sufficient to support you.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

On the 21st instant, at Brownsville, the following was received from Colonel Ryan:

CADRON FERRY, *May* 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General WEST,
Brownsville:

GENERAL: Lieutenant Guirado arrived yesterday, 2 p. m. I moved the forces from Lewisburg yesterday morning toward Dover. Finding the enemy moving on our flank and rear we fell back on the line of the Cadron. I think he will move between Clinton and Searcy. Do you wish me to move regardless of covering any particular point or let everything go and strike where I can? There has been a conflict of reports regarding Shelby's battery. From Lieutenant Babb, of the Fourth Arkansas, who was prisoner while Shelby was at Dardanelle, I learn they are 10-pounder Parrott guns, 2,500 men, and remarkably well mounted. Do you wish this ferry guarded or destroyed? I have 515 effective men.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

To this the following reply was sent:

BROWNSVILLE, *May* 21, 1864.

Col. A. H. RYAN,
Cadron Ferry:

I wish you to keep between the enemy and my force. I shall move on Austin in the morning. Try and unite with me, or at least communicate with me there, by to-morrow night. In doing so you must observe the enemy's right flank. This is positive, even if it prevents your uniting with me. Destroy the Cadron Ferry; strike where you can, but bear in mind that it is an object to unite with me.

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

On the 22d instant I moved with the main command to Austin, drawing to that point, also by authority from the district commander, direct from Devall's Bluff, the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, under Colonel Geiger. You will observe that the enemy was reported moving northeast; that Colonel Ryan was ordered to observe his right flank even if it prevented his uniting with me; that the main force was pushing direct to the line of the enemy's march to strike him on the flank. Colonel Ryan did not observe the enemy's right flank, but marched to Peach Orchard Gap, on the 22d instant, and moved the same afternoon toward Searcy. I learned this at Austin at 1 a. m., May 23, and moved from there at 3 a. m. to Peach Orchard Gap,

crossing Colonel Ryan's line of march and sending word to him to come back from the direction of Searcy and join the main force at Quitman. On the 23d instant the infantry marched to Peach Orchard Gap, Colonel Geiger's cavalry to Quitman, completing 100 miles in two days. I went in person to Quitman; could hear nothing of the enemy. On the morning of the 24th instant nothing could be learned of Colonel Ryan. There was a report that 500 rebels were on the road from Springfield to Clinton, and that three companies of Ryan's command were at Springfield. I ordered the infantry to Springfield, the force at Springfield to remain there, Colonel Geiger to march to Clinton, and on the 25th instant to come down the road, where the rebels were said to be, intending that morning to push out a force from Springfield to take them in front also. I remained at Quitman with a small escort until 6 p. m., 24th instant, waiting for Colonel Ryan. As he did not come up, I crossed over to Springfield during the night, reaching that point at 11.30 a. m., 25th instant. Here I found Colonel Ryan and learned from him that Shelby's rear guard had passed through Clinton on the night of the 23d instant. Colonel Geiger reached Springfield by 3 p. m. and confirmed this report. The infantry and artillery had arrived meanwhile, and during the afternoon my entire command was concentrated at Springfield. Colonel Ryan's command were without rations, his horses badly worn down, and needing shoes. Colonel Geiger's cavalry had marched 100 miles the first two days and 50 miles the next two; the roads and travel were telling on his horses. The infantry and artillery had marched 80 miles in four days over a very rough country. With an exhausted command, two days' rations on hand, and the enemy sixty hours in advance of me and all cavalry, I did not consider it practicable to follow him with any expectation of meeting success. On the 26th, telegraphic communication with you being interrupted, I returned in person to district headquarters for orders, and am now apprised that my command will be withdrawn to another line of operations with its original object. It is proper that this report should be made at the present time. Why the enemy got beyond my reach is attributable to delays upon the railroad, and to the fact that Colonel Ryan never touched his right flank at all. The Eighth Missouri and Tenth Illinois Cavalry, under Colonel Geiger, the infantry named in your original order, under Colonel Graves, and Marr's battery deserve commendation for the celerity and good order of their movements. Prompt, rapid, and compact at all times, they moved straight toward an enemy that was allowed to elude them by the failure of Colonel Ryan and his command to keep in contact with him.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. WEST,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. C. H. Dyer,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Little Rock.

No. 3.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of First Brigade, Second Division, Seventh Army Corps, for May, 1864.

May 19.—A portion of the brigade, consisting of the Fifty-fourth and Sixty-first Illinois and Twelfth Michigan Volunteers, under the

command of Col. W. H. Graves, started [from Little Rock] on an expedition in compliance with instructions from Brig. Gen. J. R. West. Reached Brownsville, Ark., about 3 a. m. of the 20th, where the expedition waited for supplies.

May 22.—At 3 a. m. started for Austin, Ark., at which place arrived at 2 p. m. Left Austin at 3 a. m. of the 23d, and reached Peach Orchard Gap at 6.30 p. m. Left Peach Orchard Gap at 3 a. m., [24th] and arrived at Harding at 5 p. m. ; distance, 18 miles.

May 25.—Broke camp at 4 a. m. and marched 20 miles, when the command reached Springfield, Ark., where it remained three days.

May 28.—Left Springfield ; reached Cadron Ferry at 9 a. m. on the 29th, and after crossing encamped in the wilderness until next morning, when at 4 a. m. started for Little Rock, where it arrived at 8 a. m. May 31, having marched a distance of 140 miles.

No. 4.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union), of skirmish at Cypress Creek.

LEWISBURG, *May* 14, 1864.

MAJOR : Major Clarkson, Third Arkansas Cavalry, returned with his command during the night, bringing in the body of Lieutenant Ritter, whom the rebels had robbed and stripped to his underclothes. Major Clarkson met the enemy in Perry County, 5 miles from the river ; a skirmish ensued, the major driving the enemy over and beyond Cypress Creek, destroying their camp, pursuing them a mile farther ; the enemy broke and ran. It being night, pursuit was discontinued. Receiving orders, the command returned without the loss of a man. Enemy's loss not known. The major reports the men as behaving remarkably well. I would respectfully ask if the general thinks it advisable that the Third Battalion of the regiment be sent here ? Yesterday the post was nearly stripped to furnish men to scout over the river, and I candidly believe the best interests of the service demand that they be taken from the influences that surround them in Little Rock.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. WILLIAM D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock, Ark.

MAY 15, 1864.—Attack on Mount Pleasant Landing, La., and pursuit of the Confederates.

Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Port Hudson, La., May 17, 1864.

SIR : I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 15th instant at daylight a rebel force of cavalry surrounded and attacked the stockade at Mount Pleasant Landing. It was defended by a guard of 1 lieutenant and 20 men of the Sixty-seventh U. S. Infantry

(colored). They were overpowered and the rebels proceeded to burn the saw-mill and other buildings, and to plunder. The alarm being given, I sent out a cavalry detachment of the One hundred and eighteenth Illinois, followed and supported by a force consisting of the Seventy-eighth U. S. Infantry (colored), Col. S. B. Jones, and the Twelfth Massachusetts Battery. After a rapid pursuit of 3 miles the cavalry came up with the enemy, and had several sharp skirmishers with them. They succeeded in rescuing most of the prisoners taken at Mount Pleasant, but were not able to recover the stock and merchandise plundered by the rebels. As there were reports of a considerable Confederate reserve on the Baton Rouge road, in accordance with my orders, the pursuit was discontinued. Our loss is as follows: At Mount Pleasant, 1 man killed, 3 wounded, and Second Lieut. John A. Moulton, Sixty-seventh U. S. Infantry (colored), taken prisoner, who, I regret to say, together with several citizens, still remains in the hands of the enemy. In the skirmishes 2 of the Illinois cavalry were wounded and 5 horses shot. At Mount Pleasant 2 rebels were killed and several wounded. In the skirmishes we killed 4, and took 2 prisoners, 1 of whom proves to be a very dangerous character, of whom I have repeatedly heard. The force of the enemy was divided into detachments, which attacked the stockade, estimated at 150 each, and a reserve under Colonel Powers, reported to be as many more.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Capt. J. Schuyler Crosby,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, New Orleans.

MAY 16, 1864.—Action at Big Bushes, near Smoky Hill, Kans.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry.
No. 2.—Lieut. George S. Eayre, McLain's Colorado Battery.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop, First Colorado Cavalry.

Fort Lyon, Colo. Ter., *May* 27, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to state for the information of the colonel commanding that Lieutenant Eayre, with a detachment of his command, have reported at this post; the balance of his command are now at Fort Larned. He has had a fight with the Cheyenne Indians at a point on the Smoky Hill Fork, between this post and Fort Larned, known as Big Bushes. His loss is 4 killed and 3 wounded; the loss of the Indians amounts to 25 to 30 killed and a number wounded. Among the Cheyennes killed is their principal chief, Black Kettle, and two other chiefs, viz, Good-Eye and Tut-Tut. The Cheyennes retreated in a direction toward the north. Lieutenant Eayre supposes the number of Indians to be from 400 to 500 that he engaged, all warriors, they making the first attack. Lieutenant Eayre has lost a number of horses killed, wounded, and stampeded in the fight. From all I can learn the men and officers behaved well and acted in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves as Colorado

soldiers, the odds being great in regard to numbers against them, and the nature of the ground such that it was greatly to our disadvantage in using the howitzers, notwithstanding which a complete victory was achieved.

I have information to the effect that the Kiowa Indians below here on the Arkansas are showing evidences of discontent, and have lately committed some depredations upon trains in the neighborhood of Fort Larned. I have troops disposed in such a manner that I can receive immediate intelligence of any depredations committed by any Indians on this route. The middle and left sections of First Colorado Battery, Lieutenant Burdsal commanding, reported at this post to-day.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

E. W. WYNKOOP,
Major, First Cavalry of Colorado, Comdg. Fort Lyon.

Lieut. J. S. MAYNARD,
A. A. A. G., Military District of Colorado.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. George S. Eayre, McLain's Colorado Battery.

FORT LARNED, KANS., *May* 19, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on the 16th instant, when within 3 miles of the Smoky Hill, I was attacked by the Cheyenne Indians, about 400 strong, and after a persistent fight of seven and one-half hours succeeded in driving them from the field. They lost 3 chiefs and 25 warriors killed; the wounded I am unable to estimate. My own loss is 4 men killed and 3 wounded. My animals are exhausted. I will remain at this post until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. S. EAYRE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Detachment.

Col. J. M. CHIVINGTON,
Commanding District of Colorado.

MAY 16, 1864.—Skirmish near Drywood Creek, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

No. 2.—Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding brigade.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS., *May* 17, 1864.

General McKean telegraphs that Colonel Blair's command yesterday attacked a party of guerrillas 35 miles southeast of Fort Scott, killing 3 and wounding several. Our troops still in pursuit.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding brigade.

FORT SCOTT, KANS., *May* 17, 1864.

My troops followed the bushwhackers 50 miles, by which time they had all scattered each in his own direction, and further pursuit was useless. We killed 5 and wounded quite a number, having but 2 of our own men wounded. They were pushed so hard that I don't think the same party will make a similar attempt soon. Great credit is due to my adjutant, Lieut. W. H. Hewett, who accompanied the pursuing party, and Captains Hurd and Norton, for the promptness, vigor, and efficiency of the pursuit. The troops were in march in fifteen minutes after I received the news. They are now on their return.

CHAS. W. BLAIR,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. T. J. MCKEAN.

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HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN KANSAS,
Fort Scott, Kans., May 16, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you, for the information of the commanding general, that last night a raid was made upon Drywood, south and southeast of this, by about 60 guerrillas, under one Capt. Henry Taylor, formerly sheriff of Vernon County, Mo., of which I have briefly notified the general by telegraph. The outpost of Morris' Mills, held by Company C, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, is reduced to less than 20 men, by the absence of the major portion of the same on furlough as veteran volunteers, so that they cannot have the same facilities for acquiring early information of the enemy's movements which they had formerly. Notwithstanding this, they learned of the raid soon after the first house was plundered, and supposing it to be a small party, but 5 men were sent out in pursuit. It was easy enough to follow the track by the plundered houses, all of which they had despoiled of everything, in all cases taking the men prisoners and carrying them along with the party. By the time they reached the house of Mr. Ury, 12 miles southeast of this, they had 8 prisoners. Young Ury was formerly a scout in my employ, and they had a particular spite against him. At this place they got 3 more prisoners, the two Urys and a young man named Williams, and about $600 in money. They had discussed the propriety of killing the prisoners on the spot, but finally determined to take them off some distance first, to be sure they were safe.

Of the 5 men of Company C who had started in pursuit, 2 had gone back to camp to notify the others of the extent of the force, and the other 3 came up just as the bushwhackers were coming out of Mr. Ury's gate with their prisoners; without pausing a moment these 3 men dashed gallantly forward until within 20 paces of the whole company, firing as rapidly as possible, and causing such an excitement among the enemy that the diversion allowed all the prisoners to escape, Ury, the scout, knocking down one of the rebels who stood next to him with a stick of wood he had hastily gathered from a pile

near his feet. At the first alarm the bushwhackers had fired at the prisoners, but the tumult was so great that none were hurt except the elder Ury, who was shot through the thigh, and is in a fair way to recover. The younger Ury pushed straight for the camp of Company C, got 5 fresh men, and is now on their trail. I have thought this gallant act of these 3 men of Company C deserves special mention, as their conduct undoubtedly saved the lives of all the prisoners, and I therefore respectfully call your attention to it. Their names are Sergts. O. H. Carpenter and Elwin Webber, and Private George F. Pond, Company C, Third Wisconsin Cavalry. I have about 200 men in pursuit in different parties who will give a good account of the enemy if they catch them, and who will catch them if it can be done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. W. BLAIR,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Southern Kansas.

MAY 16, 1864.—Affair at Spirit Lake, Minn.

Report of Brig. Gen. Henry H. Sibley, U. S. Army, commanding District of Minnesota.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA,
Saint Paul, Minn., May 20, 1864.

GENERAL: I had the honor to communicate to you by telegraph this morning that a party of Indians had attacked 2 men belonging to General Sully's post at Spirit Lake, and that they were beaten off with a loss of 3 men killed. This occurred on the 16th instant. I regret to state that 1 of the soldiers, a Sergeant Whitlock by name, was seriously if not dangerously wounded. The boy killed near my outpost at Lake Changuska, in Watonwan County, was shot about midnight of the 17th instant with two bullets and an arrow. He was not scalped or otherwise mutilated. The next morning (18th) a soldier belonging to the detachment on outpost duty at Lake Hanska, while engaged in fishing near the post, was fired upon and badly wounded. He states that he saw 3 Indians. I have pushed out detachments in pursuit of these marauders, and trust they will be caught and destroyed. I anticipate a recurrence of these raids on the north of the Minnesota by the refugees from Red River, and on the south by the savages of White Lodge's and Sleepy Eye's bands, for they are, respectively, familiar with the country and can effect much mischief. If two or three parties can be exterminated the ardor of the others will probably be much diminished. I expect further information to-night of the state of things, as much more damage may have been done than I am yet aware of.

Captain Whitney and Lieutenant King arrived here to-day from Sioux City, which place they left one week ago to-day. They report the Missouri lower than last season and falling, so that steamers even of light draught have great difficulty in navigating the stream. General Sully had not yet arrived at Sioux City, having, it was understood, returned from Saint Joseph to Saint Louis to hasten forward his supplies.

I have no reason to believe that his column can possibly reach Burdache Creek in time to effect a junction with my troops on 20th of June, but I shall, unless otherwise ordered, dispatch my detachment at the appointed period, if the grass is sufficient to sustain the animals, which is now very doubtful, the whole vegetation being retarded by the parched state of the earth.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. SIBLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. JOHN POPE,
Milwaukee.

MAY 16–25, 1864.—Expedition from Patterson to Bloomfield and Pilot Knob, Mo.

Report of Capt. William A. Kirby, Sixth Missouri Cavalry.

CAMP SIXTH CAVALRY, MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
May 26, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of the expedition sent out by you under command of Captain Johns, Company A, Third Missouri State Militia: We scouted the country from Patterson through Cherokee Bay to the bank of Black River, about 5 miles above Pocahontas, without finding a rebel. On the opposite bank of the Black we found 7 men, who took the brush as soon as fired upon. We crossed Black River by swimming it on Tuesday afternoon, May 17, 1864. About a mile from the river we burned a drug store containing about $8,000 or $10,000 worth of drugs. Toward evening we charged upon a squad of bushwhackers, but lost them in the swamp. On Wednesday, the 18th, crossed Cache Swamp. Bushwhackers very bold, firing on the advance often. During the day we killed 2 and wounded 1. Captured a rebel mail and several prisoners, and some cotton passing to Cape Girardeau under the protection of Major Reves. Reached Gainesville at night, where we were joined by Captain Huiskamp, of the Sixth Cavalry, Missouri Volunteers, with 46 men.* Started for Bloomfield, Mo., on Thursday, 18th. The bushwhackers wounded Captain Johns in the arm the same night, while visiting the pickets. We learned that the rebels intended to attack us in force that night, but finding us prepared, they made no further demonstration than firing on Captain Johns as he visited the pickets. We found no more rebels on the march, and reached Pilot Knob on the 25th of May, 1864, having marched over 350 miles, killed 2 bushwhackers and wounded 1, captured 7 prisoners, 1 rebel mail, and destroyed about 100 shotguns and rifles. So far as we could learn, Colonel Kitchen has collected all his available force and gone down Saint Francis River for supplies.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. A. KIRBY,
Capt. Co. A, Sixth Cav., Mo. Vols., Comdg. Company.

Col. JOHN F. TYLER,
Commanding Post, Pilot Knob, Mo.

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*See Huiskamp's report, p. 921.

MAY 17–22, 1864.—Scout in Northern Arkansas.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

CAMP CAMERON, *May* 23, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in obedience to Special Orders, No. 60, I marched May 17, 1864, with a detachment mostly from Company M, Second Arkansas Cavalry, in the direction of the mouth of Richland Creek, and encamped on the north side of Buffalo Creek, opposite. On the 18th, I crossed Buffalo and marched up Richland to R. W. Robertson's, where I found forage for the horses of my command. Mr. Robertson accompanied me as guide as far as Mrs. Hindrick's, where I learned that she had been robbed of her wagon, cattle, and corn by 2 men (William Martin and William Wilthite) from Izard County, Ark. I took the trail of these robbers and crossed the mountains north of Point Peter to Calf Creek and overtook said robbers at Widow Turney's, took them prisoners, and fed the corn to my horses. Here I received 2 U. S. horses and 2 U. S. mules, and captured 2 horses. On the 19th, I marched down Buffalo, on the north side; encountered a small party of rebels on the Tomahawk Barrens, attacked and dispersed them, wounding 1 and taking Corporal Bevins, of Captain Love's company, prisoner. I crossed the Tomahawk about noon and arrived at Yellville at sundown, taking John Burns, Robert Smith, and Elisha Estis prisoners on the way. Sergeant Kimball, Company M, Second Arkansas Cavalry, having charge of said prisoners, suffered John Burns to escape during the night. On the 20th, I marched by Talbot's Ferry on the White River to Camp Haley; encountered J. B. Lovell, who was shot to death by Private Bailey, Company C, Second Arkansas Cavalry, and captured his horse; $150 Confederate notes were taken from his person, which please find accompanying. Finding nothing against Robert Smith and Elisha Estis I released them. On the 21st, a strange delusion possessed some of the rebels below the mouth of Little North Fork. They insisted that my command must be Jackman's, and 5 reported and congratulated me upon the manner in which the prisoners taken at the Richland slaughter were treated. Their names are George Hogan, Calvin Hogan, William Lance, James Cocker, and Thomas Allman. The last-named came, bringing with him his arms. On the 22d, I marched in the direction of this camp without occurrence of importance. Whole number of prisoners brought in, 8; horses recovered and captured, brought in, 7, mules, 2. I cannot close this report without an allusion to the vigilance of Lieutenant Phillips, Company M, Second Arkansas Cavalry, and to the conduct of the men, which was highly creditable to your regiment; also to the very valuable services of Dr. G. W. Jobe, who acted as guide and scout.

My opinion is that Jackman's command is encamped on the Boston Mountain, south of the headwaters of Richland, laboring to organize a regiment by a combination with Major Nicholas, Captain Love, Lieutenant Lemmon, and others. The combination was reported to have taken place on the 18th, by which Jackman would be about 300 strong. The report that Captain Tracy had returned from a very successful raid into Missouri and was encamped at Talbot's Mills, on the North Folk, on the 18th May, 1864, was current, and that

Colonel Freeman, of McRae's command, with 600 men, was moving up White River, and not far from Batesville. All with whom I have conversed during my absence confidently expect to see Southern move soon. I infer an advance of the Southern army is contemplated.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

HUGH CAMERON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Col. JOHN E. PHELPS, *Commanding.*

MAY 18, 1864.—Affair near Searcy, Ark.

Report of Col. Oliver Wood, Twenty-second Ohio Infantry.

BROWNSVILLE STATION, *May* 19, 1864.

I have just returned from my scout. My command will be in this evening. Have seized about 80 very good horses and mules; can get plenty more in the neighborhood of Peach Orchard Gap and up Bayou Des Arc. There are no beeves in that country. McCoy, Kirk, and Little are in and about Searcy and Stony Point. Kirk and Little attacked us yesterday; we easily repulsed them and scattered them in all directions. Nearly all of them escaped. They have at least 250 armed men, and almost every man in White County between the ages of eighteen and fifty is enrolled.

O. WOOD,
Colonel Twenty-second Ohio.

Lieut. H. T. PORTER,
Aide-de-Camp, District Hdqrs., Little Rock.

MAY 18–23, 1864.—Scouts near Neosho and Carthage, Mo.

Report of Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia.

HDQRS. 7TH PROV. REGT., ENROLLED MO. MILITIA,
Mount Vernon, Mo., May 23, 1864.

GENERAL: I have just returned from my scout below. I found no force of rebels. There were about 75 or 80 rebels passed between Newtonia and Neosho on the 18th instant. Captain Ritchey had 2 scouts out during the day, and both scouts saw the rebels; one reported 75, the other 80, seen at different places near the same time. There was a lady came in who had seen them and reported about 160, and that she heard heavy musket firing in the direction of Neosho, which was the case; the troops at Neosho fired their guns that day in order to clean them up and reload. Immediately upon receiving Captain Ritchey's dispatch, I sent one company direct to Newtonia with Captain Roberts. I moved west with two companies through Sarcoxie, and then in the direction of Neosho, until I was opposite Granby, then direct to Granby. I was informed at that place that the rebels had passed, going north. I went that night to Newtonia and learned there that all was quiet at Neosho. I remained there until morning, when I was joined by one more of my companies

and 100 men from Cassville; their horses not being fit for service I left them at Newtonia. I moved with my command on the 20th to Neosho. Major Burch and myself concluded to take a scout into Arkansas, but, just on the eve of starting, I received information of the rebels robbing the citizens on Spring River, some 8 miles above Carthage, and that they intended staying in that neighborhood some days. I had information of some 40 or 50 being in that country. We turned our course for Carthage; on arriving there we learned that the large bunch had passed in 2 miles of Carthage, and sent word to Captain Rohrer to come out and fight them, but when he went they were gone; the captain not having men enough did not follow them very far. We then separated. Major Burch went in the direction of Sherwood and Fidelity, and then returned to Neosho. I divided my force into three squads; sent one squad north to the Dry Fork of Spring River, thence up that stream to the head, and thence to camp; one squad south to Center Creek, thence up said stream to Sarcoxie, thence to Cave Spring to camp; and I went up the river with the other squad to where the robbing was done, and found the trail of about 25 or 30. Followed the trail north to the prairie to where the home guards had a fight with them the night before, but no damage done. I found that they had returned to the river again. I camped for the night. The next day I searched the river bottom thoroughly for about 10 miles; found where they had camped, and followed their trail until they dispersed, and then I searched the hills but made no further discoveries. We camped at Cave Spring. I directed Captain Stotts to send an infantry scout.

Major Burch and I have agreed to take a scout into Arkansas; it will require 200 men, and I find on my return that there are small bands in the country stealing and robbing the citizens. I will not be able to furnish more than 50 men and do the citizens justice here. If you can furnish about 75 men with Major Cosgrove or some other, I think we can find out what force of the enemy is in Northwest Arkansas. We propose starting from this place Saturday for eight days' scout southwest.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. ALLEN,
Col., Comdg. Seventh Prov. Regt. Enrolled Mo. Militia.

Lieut. WALTER D. HUBBARD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Springfield, Mo.

MAY 20, 1864.—Skirmish at Lamar, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding brigade.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *May* 21, 1864.

Lamar was attacked by 100 rebels about daylight yesterday morning, who were repulsed by our troops with the loss to us of a few horses killed only. Enemy's loss not reported. This is no doubt the

same force that passed through Granby the night of the 18th instant. There are quite a number of rebel troops north of the Arkansas River, and they are constantly moving north in bodies of from 50 to 125. It seems utterly impossible with my reduced stock to intercept them or bring them to an engagement; still I will keep trying. No attack was made on Neosho, and the troops there pursued this force north until their horses gave out.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. Greene,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Louis.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry, commanding brigade.

Fort Scott, Kans., *May* 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

This a. m. at 4 o'clock the rebels attacked Lamar, Mo., 40 miles frem here, and took the place, it being garrisoned by about 25 State militia and the same number of citizens. My orderly and one of my scouts were just outside of town in the edge of the woods, saw the fight, which lasted less than five minutes, and then started for here. As far as they could hear anything, they heard firing in the town, supposed to be the rebels murdering the soldiers and citizens. The officer at Lamar, in the night, last night received a dispatch from the commanding officer at Newtonia, Mo., 80 miles from here, that at that place they had fought Marmaduke and 500 men all day yesterday, and asking help. In five minutes two companies will be on the road from here to see about the matter. I will keep you advised.

CHAS. W. BLAIR,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. T. J. McKean.

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Fort Scott, *May* 20, 1864.

I neglected to add to my former dispatch I do not believe it is Marmaduke who is at Newtonia, but if it is, the 500 men are only his advance, as he is not likely to move with less than 5,000 or 6,000.

CHAS. W. BLAIR.

General McKean.

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Fort Scott, *May* 21, 1864.

It was Adair that attacked Lamar, and after they got clear into the town, the militia rallied and drove them out at 10.30. My troops and the militia are still in pursuit south of that place. Nothing further heard from Newtonia.

CHAS. W. BLAIR,
Colonel, &c.

General McKean.

MAY 21, 1864.—Affair on the Blue River, Mo.

Report of Capt. Thomas Moses, jr., Second Colorado Cavalry.

SNIBAR STATION, MO., *May* 21, 1864—10 p. m.

LIEUTENANT: The escort to the team that I sent to Kansas City with the prisoner, Hopkins, was attacked by guerrillas about one-half mile east of crossing of Blue River, killing 1 private, Anton Voght, and wounding 1 corporal, John Sowell, and there is 1 private, Austin Means, missing. There were 9 of the escort, but the sergeant in command cannot tell how many bushwhackers there were, but thinks 30 or 35. They were attacked from every point. The escort returned the fire, but saw it was impossible for them to be victorious, as the bushwhackers were in the brush and firing not over 20 yards. The man that was killed fell at the first fire; also the corporal that was wounded, the sergeant helping him on his horse, and while doing so he says there were 20 shots fired at him. He then fell back toward the Blue with his party, except the advance guard, which was cut off from the main party entirely. Only 2 men were in the advance, Corporal Sowell and Austin Means. As they were surrounded entirely they both dismounted and went to the brush, being pursued by the enemy. The corporal has just arrived at camp and reports that after he got into the brush 3 men were in pursuit of him, one a very large man, short, thick-set, and he is satisfied is the same man that was routed at the Hopkins place on the morning of the 18th instant, which I am satisfied is old man Hopkins. After getting close up to him this man Hopkins said, "Oh, you son of a bitch, I have got you," whereupon the corporal fired and he fell from his horse. The corporal then saw 5 or 6 more coming toward him from an opposite direction, and after firing all his shots left. He ran into a thicket and escaped. He did not see Private Means afterward, but thinks that he escaped.

The Hopkins are noted bushwhackers, and they have had their families driven out of the country twice before. They killed 5 mules in the team and wounded the others, set the wagon on fire, but only destroyed the bed. The men had to depend upon their pistols, the carbines missing fire. I have 18 men out to-night; have sent a dispatch to Pleasant Hill. I think by what I can learn that the guerrillas divided up in small squads soon after the fight. They went across the prairie toward the river and down the Blue.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. MOSES, JR.,
Captain, Commanding Station.

Lieut. EDWARD L. BERTHOUD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Kansas City.

MAY 22, 1864.—Capture and recapture of the Stingaree, off Brazos, Tex.

Report of Col. J. Bates, Thirteenth Texas Infantry, commanding Second Sub-District.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SUB-DISTRICT,
Camp Barnard E. Bee, May 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following special report: Yesterday morning the blockader at the mouth of the Brazos gave

chase to a schooner which appeared in the offing southwest of Velasco. After passing out of sight, the schooner, which proved to be the Stingaree, McCloskey, master, was captured and placed in charge of a prize crew, consisting of an ensign and 6 men, Captain McCloskey and his crew remaining as prisoners on board the schooner. The steamer then sailed back toward her anchorage, the schooner following in her wake. Captain McCloskey then produced some liquor, and in a short time succeeded in getting the prize crew drunk; and at the proper moment, with the aid of his crew, secured their arms, made prisoners of the prize crew, and resumed command of his vessel.

Captain McCloskey continued in the wake of the steamer until within about 4 miles of Velasco, when he changed his course and made all sail for the beach. The steamer immediately gave chase, firing several shots without effect. The schooner succeeded in beaching about 2 miles from Velasco, west. In the mean time Lieutenant-Colonel Cayce, commanding post, Velasco, seeing the movements of the schooner, sent to her assistance one company of cavalry and 25 infantry.

During the contest on board the schooner two of the prize crew escaped in a small boat. Captain McCloskey reports the 2 men who escaped as being wounded or killed. He also reports having lost 1 of his crew overboard. The result of all this is that Captain McCloskey, after having been captured by a Federal gun-boat and placed under charge of a prize crew, succeeded in recapturing his vessel and bringing her safely to shore, with 5 out of the 7 Yankees who, with arms in their hands, were placed as a guard over him. I cannot close this report without testifying my high appreciation of the bold and patriotic heroism of Captain McCloskey and his crew in this affair. Such devotion to the interests which he represents and to the honor of his country should not go unrewarded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BATES,
Colonel, Commanding Sub-District.

Capt. L. G. ALDRICH,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 22, 1864.—Affair near Devall's Bluff, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. Ezra M. Beardsley, One hundred and twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry.

MAY 22, 1864—1 p. m.

About 20 rebels surprised and captured 3 men and between 100 and 200 horses and mules on the prairie, foraging, belonging to the Remount Camp. I have sent 75 cavalry from the Ninth Iowa in pursuit. They went toward Des Arc.

E. M. BEARDSLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

General E. A. CARR,
Commanding District.

MAY 23-25, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg, Mo.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Warrensburg, Mo., May 25, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that I have been absent from this station since the morning of the 23d instant; that at about daylight that morning I received information that about 20 guerrillas, at 5 p. m. the day before, 4 miles northeast of Chilhowee, had attacked Solathel Stone, orderly sergeant, and 5 men, one of them Judge King, of Capt. W. H. Thompson's company of citizen guards, and killed Judge King and captured the sergeant and 3 of his men; 1 escaped. The party were scouting at the time. The guerrillas got the arms of the captured men. I also learned by other messengers about the same time that another party of 15 were seen the night before near the line of the railroad east of Holden. I also received a communication about the same time from Lieutenant Hardesty, at Germantown, on Saturday night, 21st instant, that 100 guerrillas had crossed the Osage at Taberville, coming north; Lieutenant Goodbrake, commanding at Clinton, indorsed this communication, that he had reliable information that the number was much larger than stated by Lieutenant Hardesty. I immediately started for Holden with 47 men, and on the way learned from a woman that 30 guerrillas had taken her husband's horse the night before about 6 miles east of Holden and north of the road, and that they went north. We reached Holden at 12 m., and not being able to hear of any guerrillas south of that point, I sent Captain Wyckoff with 27 men of his company to scout the Black Water timber, and after having done so to return to Warrensburg. I retained 10 men of Company A with me. Upon inspection of Company M, I found but 12 men for duty at Holden. I went to Kingsville the same evening, where I found 20 men of same company, which I inspected and returned to Holden.

Captain Eads informed me that he had sent his two teams to the vicinity of Hopewell, La Fayette County, Mo., for forage under an escort of 20 men, and that they would return next day. At dark a messenger came to Holden from Captain Taggart with the information that Quantrill with 200 men was about 6 miles south of Holden marching in that direction. I immediately sent messengers to Kingsville for the men at that place to join me, and with the 22 men marched for Hopewell, taking the railroad; transportation and company property with me. About 8 miles from Holden we were joined by the 20 men from Kingsville and 15 citizen guards of Captain Jones' company. We reached Hopewell about daylight. I immediately sent messengers to Captain Burris to join me, which he did at 10 a. m. with about 65 men, and we marched immediately for Holden, where we arrived at about 4 p. m. Upon communicating again with Captain Taggart we learned that the guerrillas had left his neighborhood the night before and gone north, but was unable to learn their course. We remained at Holden last night, and this morning I sent Captain Burris with his command to scout the country between Lone Jack and Chapel Hill, on his return to his camp on Walton's farm, in Texas Prairie, and I came to this place. I learn since arriving here that Captain Wyckoff returned to this place on

last evening, finding no trace of guerrillas on Black Water. As you directed a company to be sent to Kingsville Captain Wyckoff marched for that point last night and is now at that point. Company M is at Holden.

The descent of the guerrillas upon Captain Taggart's neighborhood was sudden, and in such force that he was unable to get his company together, each man saving himself by hiding in the brush. At Hopewell I sent messengers to Captain Eads' forage train, and they came into Holden immediately after we arrived there. I cannot say for a certainty how many guerrillas were in the vicinity of Holden, but am satisfied that there were more than 100, from reported counts by different persons. The instructions forwarded in relation to the scout beginning on the 27th have been sent to Major Mullins and Captain Burris, in the western part of La Fayette County.

In order to complete my monthly inspection it will be necessary to visit Companies B, E, and K in Henry. I expect to start there in a day or two. There should be another company of troops here, and I am inclined to bring Company E, leaving Companies B and K in the field in the western part of Henry. I think this company can better be spared than any other from present locations. A company from some other regiment would be better, as all of my regiment now in the field should be kept there.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES McFERRAN,

Col. First Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. Third Sub-District.

Brig. Gen. E. B. BROWN.

MAY 24–JUNE 4, 1864.—Greene's operations on the west bank of the Mississippi River.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

May 25, 1864.—Engagement with U. S. steamer Curlew.
25, 30, 1864.—Capture of steamers Lebanon and Clara Eames.
June 1, 1864.—Engagement with U. S. steamer Exchange.
2, 1864.—Engagement with U. S. steamers Adams and Monarch.

REPORTS, ETC.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. John S. Marmaduke, C. S. Army, commanding division.
No. 2.—Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry (Confederate), commanding brigade.
No. 3.—Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Military Division of West Mississippi for June, 1864.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. John S. Marmaduke, C. S. Army, commanding division.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S DIVISION,
In the Field, June 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I inclose herewith a report of the operations of Marmaduke's brigade, of my division, up to date:† This brigade, with

* For reports of Lieut. Commander Elias K. Owen, Acting Master James C. Gipson, and Acting Ensign H. B. O'Neill, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

† For Greene's report of operations, June 5–9, see p. 984.

Pratt's battery and my escort, constitute the whole force in this section of the country under my orders. The service rendered by Cabell's brigade, commanded by Colonel Monroe, which was a few days under my orders, are reported in Colonel Greene's report. On nearing the Mississippi River I found the country filled with independent squads, deserters, skulkers fleeing from conscription, and speculators (detestable animals in any country); the people much demoralized, and largely engaged in contraband trade. By vigorous measures I have nearly rid the country of the lawless bands which infested it; have suppressed all improper trading with the enemy, and have established good order and feeling among the people. My troops have behaved well, and the best of good feeling exists between the citizens and soldiers. The navigation of the Mississippi River has been seriously obstructed, and both by land and water the enemy have received no little damage. My loss trifling.

In the battle of Lake Chicot the officers and men behaved admirably, and deserve the highest praise. I desire specially to mention the gallant conduct of the following officers of my staff: Maj. C. C. Rainwater, chief of ordnance and artillery, who was seriously wounded; Capt. William M. Price, aide-de-camp; Capt. John C. Moore, acting assistant adjutant-general, and Lieutenant Mhoon, togopraphical engineer, who had their horses shot under them. These officers I specially assigned to work my artillery at various points, and rendered most valuable service. Captain Pratt and his excellent company deserve particular mention. My escort, under Lieut. John H. Lewis, did admirable fighting. For the details of the operations on the Mississippi River see Colonel Greene's reports. Colonel G[reene] deserves much praise for the energy and skill with which he has handled his brigade. My engineer company, under Captain Hogane, has been particularly useful and efficient.

Very respectfully,

J. S. MARMADUKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Captain THOMAS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Northern Sub-District of Arkansas.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry (Confederate), commanding brigade.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
Yellow Bend, on Mississippi River,
At Adair's, 10 miles above Gaines' Landing, May 26, 1864.

MAJOR: I made my bivouac at sunset yesterday on the bank of the river and placed my guns in position. No boats made their appearance until 10 p. m., when three gun-boats passed up. At 10 o'clock I learned that a yawl could be got on Island No. 78, which determined me to shape my plans for boarding. Everything was arranged, but it was impossible to get the boat out before 9 o'clock this morning. A transport lay near the other bank, which was my object. It has since changed position, but I have strong hopes that I will find its whereabouts. Having this end in view I desisted from attacking passing boats to-day. Two large transports, convoyed by the largest iron-clad on the river, and another gun-boat went down to-day. Both of the transports were heavily loaded and had 40 or 50

troops on board. I am satisfied the enemy is ignorant of my whereabouts. I made a feint at Gaines' Landing and near Columbia, which caused the enemy to assemble two fleets at those places, and then I moved up Clay Bayou and struck the river above, crossing Boggy Bayou. Four gun-boats (one the iron-clad Carondelet) shelled the landing for five hours. They were similarly engaged near Columbia.

I have intelligence of the damage done to the enemy on the 24th. The first gun-boat I attacked was so disabled as to require the help of a tow-boat. She got to Napoleon yesterday, pierced in six places and badly damaged by shell in her cabins. My second attack on the transports riddled them and caused them to be burned. In the fourth attack the marine-boat Diana was seriously hurt, and some damage done to the mosquito gun-boat. In the third attack the large new transport (name forgotten) was so much injured that she filled and careened over and was hauled to the east bank. In the fifth and last fight the gun-boat Romeo, No. 3, was as roughly handled as the first. She was struck fifteen times. Quite an alarm extended to the upper river, and the enemy has assembled a formidable fleet, among which are the monitors Carondelet and Benton.

It will be impracticable to cross Cypress without a bridge, nor is it eligible. The lines of retreat about Gaines' Landing are not as good as below that point, the Mason being full and without bridges or boats. There is but one practicable speedy outlet. It is my opinion that the point of rendezvous should be at or near Lake Village, where I am informed corn can be obtained; at least there is more on the Mason than here, where there is hardly any. From that position I could operate down to Lakeport Landing and up to Gaines' Landing safely and rapidly. I would respectfully suggest that a party be sent at once to the vicinity named to ascertain what forage can be obtained.

Pratt's battery has only three rounds of solid shot left to the gun. It is therefore impracticable for me to engage gun-boats. Shell without fuse can be used against transports.

I have seen the New Orleans Times of the 21st, containing accounts from Southern sources. They are more rumor than reliable intelligence. I do not attach importance to them. They are to the effect that Lee had defeated Grant with immense slaughter and driven him across the Rapidan; that ten gun-boats were captured on the James River. The date is Mobile, May 15.

There is no doubt that Butler was badily whipped near Fort Darling and lost all of his siege guns and many field pieces. Beauregard and Lee have been re-enforced. This I learn from papers of the 20th and 23d. The Chicago Tribune estimates Lee's loss at 35,000 and Grant's 40,000. Lee occupies a strong position in front of Spotsylvania Court-House and is intrenched. Some heavy skirmishing has taken place, Lee assuming the offensive. The latest Northern date from the field is of the 19th. Lieutenant Jenkins, of Wood's battalion, crossed the river last night. He says it was reported at Grenada that Johnston had defeated Sherman and captured 10,000 prisoners at Resaca.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The main fleet passed down the river toward Lakeport Landing yesterday at 11 o'clock. My scouts extend from Napoleon to Sunnyside. There are 1,000 Federals on the island near Napoleon. No boats are running in the Arkansas. Maximilian and the Empress sailed for Vera Cruz on April 19.

C. G.

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HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In Camp, May 30, 1864—12.10 p. m.

MAJOR: Your No. 257 is at hand. I have just gotten in from the river. I do not think it advisable to detach the two regiments named until the fleet with the troops shall have passed. My scouting and picketing are very heavy. In Burbridge's, Jeffers', and Kitchen's regiments to-day, at what seemed to be a critical moment, there were not present 275 men. This support is too light. It would, in my opinion, be indiscreet to engage the transports referred to above without a heavy support. The resistance we will make to them will perhaps force them to land troops—a thing practicable to them and quite dangerous to us. A glance at the map will satisfy you. I think I am informed of the purposes for which these regiments are to be used, and if it were not too forward would speak upon the subject. If I am right in my conjecture, the proper time for the expedition would be when the convoy goes up with the transports.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
Smith's Plantation, 4½ Miles above Sunnyside, May 30, 1864.

MAJOR: In my last I reported that we attacked a transport yesterday afternoon. She was more disabled than I had supposed, and was towed off by a gun-boat. This morning at daylight I attacked a transport (Clara Eames), cut her escape-pipe, penetrated her boilers, putting in 17 shots in all. She surrendered and came to shore. Her cargo was cotton. All the light articles were removed from her—everything of value. I then made arrangements to signal a coming boat with a view of capturing her. This craft proved to be a gun[-boat], which I engaged, and burned the transport. I send you 13 or 15 prisoners; an officer will report the exact number, &c. I am still engaging a gun-boat. Four others have just appeared in sight. I shall amuse them and then move rapidly to Columbia, 3½ miles above. By this movement I will concentrate the enemy's fleet at this point, which is 18 miles by water to Columbia.

I learn from the captain of the boat—a person whom I have long known and who is reliable—that Smith's division is at Vicksburg, where a large fleet of transports was assembled. It was not known when the troops would come up.

I regret again to inform you that the artillery ammunition is nearly exhausted. There are only 12 rifle shell, 6 solid smooth-bore, and 30 shell for howitzers. Of course it is impossible for me to do anything unless I am supplied at once.

Great credit is due to Captain Pratt for the skillful management of his battery.

Very respectfully, &c.,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

There were 3 killed and 1 wounded on the boat.

C. G.

—

AT SMITH'S PLANTATION,
Four and a half miles above Sunnyside, May 30, 1864.

MAJOR: I have made a reconnaissance below Lakeport Landing. The river is wide; no good position for artillery and no protection for horses. Sunnyside is not good. I am now at Smith's plantation, where there is plenty of corn. It is 3½ miles below Columbia. I can attack the enemy here and at the last-named place successively. I engaged a transport an hour ago, doing some damage. Three marine-boats gave signs of battle and then backed out. They have gone to Columbia. I am watching them. I am informed by a person late from Vicksburg that a fleet of transports bearing troops had left that place for Cairo this morning. I look for it to-night. These troops go to be discharged, some to re-enlist. There is no doubt six transports with troops went up yesterday. They were of the same character as those expected. I send late papers.

Very respectfully,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

P. S.—Colonel Lawther is instructed concerning pickets, &c. I am well guarded. There is a line of couriers posted at Lake Village, Camp Worthington, near Sunnyside. I shall put one at Columbia if I go up to-night, or above.

Very respectfully,

COLTON GREENE.

—

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, June 8, 1864.

MAJOR: I beg respectfully to submit the following report of the operations of this brigade on the Mississippi River between the 23d ultimo and 2d instant: On the 23d ultimo I marched from Leatherman's, on Bayou Mason, with Greene's regiment, commanded by Captain Crabtree, and Pratt's battery, at sunset, and bivouacked at Campbell's, near Gaines' Landing. At daylight of the 24th, I put the battery in position immediately on the bank of the river and

formed its support under cover of the levee 50 yards in rear. At sunrise I attacked a gun-boat, and after an engagement of thirty-five minutes drove it off badly disabled. It was towed up to Napoleon seriously damaged. I then moved down the river rapidly and took position at Daniel Sessions' plantation and immediately attacked two transports coming up the river. They were disabled in a short time, turned back, got around a bend, were on fire, and were burned, as I am informed, a few hours afterward. Lawther's regiment coming down I detached one section and moved on with four pieces to Columbia. Lawther engaged a transport and gun-boat, which, passing down, came upon my battery. The transport was armed with one 18-pounder Parrott. I opened on her, riddled her upper works, and penetrated her hull. She filled, careened over, and made for the other bank out of range disabled.

I now marched with the full battery and Lawther's and Greene's regiments to Leland's, 1½ miles below. This position was an exposed one. We went into battery and awaited the enemy's approach. He came down in line of battle, crescent shaped, with two marine-boats, one gun-boat, and a transport. I engaged the fleet, which held its position, maneuvering for near two hours, when it passed on. The gun-boat was disabled, the marine-boat Diana roughly handled, with many killed and wounded, and the transport penetrated in many places.

Once more I limbered up and moved in a gallop back to Columbia; went into battery there, and at once engaged the gun-boat Romeo. She was quickly disposed of; struck seventeen times; greatly damaged; got out of the way, and has not since made its appearance before my batteries.

Before leaving camp on Bayou Mason I sent Captain Jacobs, Company F, Fourth Regiment, with a detachment of 40 men, down the river to make a reconnaissance, and with orders to board a transport if opportunity offered. On the morning of the day of the operations herein reported he seized a yawl near Ford's Landing and successfully boarded and captured the steamer Lebanon, upon which he found large quantities of goods, stores, &c. He burned the boat.

After the second engagement at Columbia I bivouacked at Sanders', on the river, and marched at 2 o'clock that night back to Gaines' Landing. There I found three gun-boats, which I avoided engaging for want of ammunition, but whose fire I drew by sharpshooters while I moved my column by a circuitous road and struck the river 10 miles above. This occupied the day of the 25th, upon which no transports appeared.

On the 26th, I attacked a large transport in sight of a gun-boat. Struck her several times, but am not informed of the damage done her. On the same day I received an order from you to return to camp, which I reached at night. On the 27th, I marched with the brigade to Parker's, on Bayou Mason. On the 28th, encamped on Old River Lake, near Ditch Bayou. On the 29th, I moved with Burbridge's, Jeffers', and Kitchen's regiments to Smith's plantation, 4 miles above Sunnyside, on the Mississippi, and immediately attacked a passing transport, which was struck many times, but got safely off.

At daybreak on the 30th, I attacked the transport Clara Eames; cut her escape-pipe and penetrated her boiler. She made signs of distress; came ashore and surrendered. She was loaded with cotton.

I stripped her of everything valuable, and two marine-boats coming in sight burned her to the water's edge. I brought off 15 prisoners and 7 negroes.

I at once engaged the marine-boats, and after a short action drove them back to their station on the east bank of the river. An hour after I fired into a transport, doing her little damage for want of proper ammunition. An iron-clad now came up and shelled my position for some time. I did not reply with my guns, but forced her to long range with sharpshooters. On the same night I returned to camp.

On the 31st, a detachment of Cabell's brigade, with Hughey's four-gun battery, commanded by Colonel Monroe, was ordered by you to report to me. During the night of the 31st, I posted Lawther's regiment at Smith's plantation with instructions to fire into the enemy, while I moved with Monroe's command, Greene's regiment, and Pratt's battery to Columbia. Monroe supported the batteries. Greene's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, covered the approach at Luna.

Early on the 1st instant I attacked the gun-boat Exchange. The action was short. She was badly disabled in her hull and boilers, and with difficulty got to the east bank above out of range, where she lay crippled until towed off. No other boats appeared in the river that day. Lawther successfully amused two gun-boats below, which anchored off and shelled him all day. At daylight June 2, I engaged the marine-boat Adams, one gun-boat, and a transport. They made no fight of consequence; were often struck, but passed on. Soon after the iron-clad Benton, or Louisville [the Monarch], a formidable-looking craft, hove in sight lashed broadside to a large transport. I posted sharpshooters on the bank and at once opened fire on the transport. The iron-clad fired but two shells when she was forced to close her ports by reason of the heavy fire of the sharpshooters. She cut loose from the transport, fell back a mile, and shelled us with 64-pounder rifles, doing no damage. The transport was badly hurt. Again the marine-boat Adams, two gun-boats, and one transport appeared. They were engaged, but cautiously kept on the other bank, showing no inclination to fight. They were struck often. I now returned to camp. On the 3d and 4th no boats appeared. The river was blockaded.

In these actions I engaged 21 boats of all descriptions, of which 5 gun-boats and marine-boats were disabled, 5 transports badly damaged, 1 sunk, 2 burned, and 2 captured. My loss was 1 subaltern and 5 privates slightly wounded. No guns or horses were hit. Captain Pratt, commanding battery, deserves especial mention for his uniform skill, coolness, and courage. Captain Hughey was particularly successful in the action with the gun-boat Exchange. The supports to the batteries behaved with their accustomed bravery. The gallantry and enterprise of Capt. John W. Jacobs, Company F, Fourth Regiment, cannot be too highly praised. This officer has on all occasions exhibited marked ability and distinguished courage.

These operations have demonstrated the practicability of blockading or seriously interrupting the navigation of the Mississippi River with field artillery. I venture the opinion that with 18 and 24 pounder rifles no boat could safely pass a battery, except an iron-clad. In every instance except one my guns were without protection; were run right up to the edge of the bank. The effect of the

enemy's fire is shown in the damage done me. That serious injury has been inflicted upon him is evident from the fact that after the first day's fighting few or no boats passed without convoys—now none, except the fleet under Major-General Smith.

Very respectfully,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Abstract from Record of Events on return of the Military Division of West Mississippi for June, 1864.

June 2.—Steamer Adams and ram Monarch convoyed transport Missouri from Greenville, Miss., to Gaines' Landing; passed rebel battery of six guns at Columbia, Ark., and returned with transport Henry Ames, downward bound; passed same battery. The transport, being lashed outside the Adams, received no injury, while she was struck by shot and shell twenty-eight times, and had 3 men killed and 1 mortally wounded.

MAY 26, 1864.—Affair on Lane's Prairie, Maries County, Mo.

Report of Lieut. George B. Davidson, Second Wisconsin Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY K, SECOND WISCONSIN CAV. VOLS.,
Rolla, Mo., May 30, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 27th instant I was ordered to proceed in command of a scout of 30 men, belonging to the First Battalion, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, in search of Sergt. Legrand Carter and 4 men of this command, who were sent out by the provost-marshal District of Rolla, Mo., on the 26th instant, and who were supposed to have been taken prisoners. I left camp at 9 a. m. and proceeded in a northwest direction some 20 miles, until I struck the Waynesville and Vienna road, near the house of Mr. Bull, on Maries Creek. I then learned from citizens then assembled that the sergeant, together with his 4 men, were all lying about a mile from that place in the woods, having been shot and left there by some party, supposed to be bushwhackers, on the evening of the 26th instant. I took the statements of some citizens who seem to know but little of anything about who the perpetrators of the deed were or the circumstances. I, however, learned from a colored woman that she saw our men about sundown in the road near Mr. Bull's, and saw a party of men dressed in Federal uniform, numbering about 15, meet them, and heard each party tell the other to halt. She said some loud talk then took place, when the smaller party, together with the large party, went up into the woods together; in a short time she heard firing. A lady who afterward saw the same party, and met them in the road going in the direction of

Waynesville, said they told her they were soldiers from Jefferson City, and made inquiries if she had seen any bushwhackers around in that section. I found the bodies near each other, with signs of a desperate struggle for life by the unarmed men, and the sergeant was stripped of his pants and boots, and had an old pair of worn-out shoes on his feet. After sending the bodies to camp I thoroughly scouted the country from the point on Maries Creek, where the bodies were found, to the Gasconade River, and on and around Matthews' Prairie, but hearing nothing sufficient to warrant my longer delay, and having been informed that a scout was out from Waynesville, in which direction the best information led me to believe the party had gone, I returned to camp on the 28th instant.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. DAVIDSON,
Second Lieut. Co. K, Second Wisconsin Cav. Vols.

[Maj. MYRON W. WOOD,
First Battalion.]

MAY 27, 1864.—Skirmish near Shanghai, Mo.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Warrensburg, Mo., May 27, 1864.

GENERAL: Captain Moore and company are with Captain Burris at Walton's farm, 7 miles north of Chapel Hill. Four companies of the Seventh have just arrived under Captain Foster; Company C of my regiment has also just arrived. The citizen guards and bushwhackers had a skirmish this evening near Shanghai. The most of the citizen guards were absent at the time. The bushwhackers captured the place, and it is reported burned it. I march to-night to surround their camp with such forces as can be spared from this place.

JAMES McFERRAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

[General E. B. BROWN.]

MAY 28, 1864.—Destruction of Lamar, Mo.

Report of Mr. Nathan Bray.

MOUNT VERNON, MO., *May* 30, 1864.

RESPECTED SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the town of Lamar is in ashes. The bushwhackers under Taylor, Marchbanks & Co. entered the town at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 28th instant and burnt nearly every house in the place, together with most of the household goods, &c. All the books and records of the county were again burnt. The women and children were sitting outdoors trying to take care of what they saved until help could be sent. I tried to get some assistance at Carthage, but Captain Walker could spare no men, so I came here, but find the colonel absent. I do not know what the loyal citizens of that place have done that has sub-

jected them to such treatment from the military. We were promised better things; but alas, again we find ourselves the victims of mistaken confidence. I care not for the amount of property destroyed; the great damage done is that the county cannot again be organized in two years. The people will be compelled to go to Kansas or elsewhere where they can have the protection that loyal citizens deserve. I am happy to hear that you condemned the moving of the troops from the town. I hope, general, you will see this matter investigated.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am, general, with high regard, your obedient servant,

NATHAN BRAY.

Brigadier-General SANBORN,
Commanding District Southwest Missouri.

MAY 28, 1864.—Attack on Pest-House, opposite Port Hudson, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. Daniel Ullmann, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Port Hudson, La., May 29, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that yesterday afternoon (28th instant) a small force of rebels attacked and plundered the pest-house of this post, situated on the right bank of the river. They destroyed the medicines, seized the other hospital stores, and took prisoner the attending physician, Assistant Surgeon Mason, Sixth Michigan Heavy Artillery. I succeeded last night in transporting the sick to this side of the river, and have also saved a portion of the stores and other property. The telegraph wire and poles were also destroyed last night for a mile or more between here and Baton Rouge, it is thought by the same party. I have sent a detachment to make repairs. A force of some strength is reported to be opposite here, about 2 miles from the river. I have also to report that a detachment of the Third Maryland Cavalry reported from the right bank this morning that they were ordered at Morganza to repair the telegraph line between here and that place, and that they are unable to return, having found a superior detachment of rebel cavalry obstructing the way. It is also reported by the steamer Grey Eagle that General Taylor is on this side of the Atchafalaya River in force.

A reconnoitering party sent out by me last night report a considerable number of rebel pickets about 5 miles out on the Jackson road. Shots were exchanged between the several parties. I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of a report made by Brigadier-General Sherman to Major-General Reynolds, and of a letter of Major-General Reynolds to me.* I have acted upon the suggestion as to the removal of timber, sand-bags, &c., from the old line of works. I respectfully refer to the suggestion as to sending here four heavy guns and seven carriages.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

DANIEL ULLMANN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Post.

Brigadier-General DWIGHT,
Chief of Staff, Department of the Gulf.

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* Inclosures not found.

MAY 29, 1864.—Skirmish on Bayou Fordoche Road, La.

Report of Col. Morgan H. Chrysler, Second New York Veteran Cavalry, commanding brigade.

MORGANZA, LA., *May* 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM DWIGHT,
Chief of Staff, New Orleans:

GENERAL: I send you the inclosed dispatch, in which it will be seen that Colonel Chrysler reports the enemy has crossed and are crossing in considerable force at Morgan's Ferry and points below. I send out all my cavalry and all the infantry I can spare to support it, to hold him in check, and, if possible, to stop the crossing at Morgan's Ferry. We have yet an immense quantity of Government property here which has to be guarded.

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. FOURTH CAV. BRIG., 19TH ARMY CORPS,
Morganza, La., May 29, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I moved my brigade at a little before sunrise of this date. I came upon the advance of the enemy about 5 miles from this place on the Bayou Fordoche road, driving them back until I uncovered the Morgan's Ferry road. I think the force in my immediate front about 300 men, but as it retired it increased in numbers so that it required one-half of my force on the skirmish line. I learned that the enemy had been crossing their mounted infantry for two days, and the force was variously estimated at from 3,000 to 7,000 mounted infantry, two pieces of artillery, one apparently a heavy gun swung under a cotton carriage. I also learned that the infantry were crossing at Bayou Grossetete and that their destination was La Fourche. After satisfying myself that the enemy had a force outnumbering me three to my one, and having become satisfied that they were crossing their cavalry force at Morgan's Ferry, I withdrew my command, the enemy following closely for 3 miles. I do not know of but 2 men wounded in my command. We killed 3 of the enemy's horses, and their loss was probably quite severe, as the skirmish line at times was not 200 yards apart. My command arrived in camp at 2.15 p. m.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. H. CHRYSLER,
Colonel, Commanding.

Col. E. J. DAVIS,
Comdg. Cavalry Forces, 19th Army Corps.

MAY 29, 1864.—Capture of Wagon train at Salem, Ark.

Report of Maj. James Rainsford, Assistant Adjutant-General, Missouri State Militia.

ROLLA, MO., *May* 30, 1864.

MAJOR: A command of about 70 men, under Captain Crocker, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, left here yesterday for West Plains to escort a train of Union refugees from Jacksonport, Ark. This even-

ing a party of his men, about 5, were sent in by him with the intelligence that the train was attacked at Salem, Ark., by 300 guerrillas. The entire train was burnt and about 80 men and some women killed. They were sent from Jacksonport by Colonel Livingston, with 200 of the First Nebraska as escort, but the escort was called back, and thus left unprotected a force of about 150 men. Start to-morrow with a train; this, with Captain Crocker's command, will make over 200 men. It will leave this place very scant of troops, and it is highly necessary that additional troops should be sent up here. These refugees have lost everything, and if not assisted must starve. I have consulted with Colonel Sigel, and this is the conclusion we have come to. The command starts at 6 a. m. to-morrow.

J. RAINSFORD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE.

MAY 30–31, 1864.—Skirmishes on Mill and Honey Creeks, Mo.

Report of Capt. John R. Kelso, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

NEOSHO, MO., *June* 2, 1864.

SIR: On the 29th of May, 1864, by your order, I took command of 30 men, composed of detachments of companies H, L, and M, of the Eighth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, and, accompanied by Lieutenant Hunter, marched in the direction of Huff's Mill, in Arkansas. As we proceeded down Indian Creek, we learned that 2 bushwhackers had passed down a few hours in advance, robbing several poor families as they went. We followed their trail till night, then ambuscaded the road and rested till 2 o'clock in the morning. We then proceeded through Rutledge, and having learned that several bushwhackers besides those we were trailing had passed up Mill Creek, we found their trail and followed it. We arrived at last at the house of a bushwhacker by the name of Waitman. We there discovered a considerable quantity of provisions and some Federal clothing. Believing that this was a bushwhacker rendezvous, I sent Lieutenant Hunter with the main body of my command with instructions to move slowly up the valley, while I with the remainder searched the thickets and ravines on our flanks. The keen cracks of rifles and revolvers soon rang out on both sides of me, accompanied by the hearty yells of my brave boys. The fight soon over, I found my boys all unhurt, and 2 bushwhackers dead on the ground. I presented the horses of the dead bushwhackers to the brave lads who had killed them and then proceeded over the hills to Butler's Creek. We found a hidden tanyard, which we destroyed. We reached Butler's Creek in the evening, ambuscaded the road and rested till 2 o'clock of the 31st, when we proceeded in a southwesterly direction in order to strike Honey Creek, where we learned a dancing party was going on, attended by the notorious thief, Lieutenant McGee, and 7 of his men. As we proceeded, however, we were discovered; signal guns were fired by the buskwhackers on the hills, and we accomplished nothing more than the capture of a few good quilts and blankets left in their deserted camps. I burned the houses, or rather hovels, where they harbored, and proceeded to the party. We arrived too late to dance any ourselves, but we made Lieutenant

McGee and his men dance in the following manner: As we were at the house consulting we discovered a man, whom we supposed to be McGee himself, approaching us; when he discovered us he "got up and dusted," followed by Lieutenant Hunter and several other boys, all of whom, however, were distanced in the race and came back, except Lieutenant Hunter and 3 others. They followed until they were a full mile from the command, when they ran upon McGee's whole party (7 besides himself), charged them like madmen, killed 2 on the spot, wounded another, and chased the balance more than a mile. They then gathered up as many horses as they could and came back, expressing themselves highly pleased with their "fun."

I immediately presented the captured horses and arms to these noble boys, and while our horses were grazing I took one man, and having laid aside our coats and made ourselves look as much like bushwhackers as possible, we ran to a rebel house half a mile distant and rushing in covered with sweat hastily informed the lady that 200 Federals had broken in upon us and killed 2 of our men, and that Lieutenant McGee had sent us to get every horse that would do to ride; she soon furnished us with 3 horses belonging to McGee's party, which we gladly received and went on our way rejoicing. Being now encumbered with a number of led horses and having obtained the information for which you sent me out, I marched for camp, arriving on the evening of the 1st of June, 1864.

In conclusion I will say that I am proud to command such men as formed my detachment on this occasion. Lieutenant Hunter, of Company H, is an officer after my own heart. Every man also did his duty well. Hunger, fatigue, loss of sleep, every privation was borne without one word of complaint. With such officers and men under my command, I feel sure of success in almost any enterprise.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN R. KELSO,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

Capt. H. D. MOORE,
Commanding Post.

MAY 30–JUNE 5, 1864.—Expedition from Morganza to the Atchafalaya, La., and skirmishes near Livonia and Morganza.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, commanding Nineteenth Army Corps, &c.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding division, &c.

No. 3.—Col. Edmund J. Davis, First Texas Cavalry (Union), commanding Cavalry Forces.

No. 1.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, commanding Nineteenth Army Corps, &c.

HDQRS. NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS AND U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., June 1, 1864.

MAJOR: On the 29th, I learned that the enemy were crossing the Atchafalaya. I immediately sent out 6,000 infantry under Genera

Lawler, and 2,000 cavalry under Colonel Davis, to attack and disperse the enemy, and, if possible, break up his means of crossing the river. I also requested a naval officer here to send two gun-boats into the Atchafalaya if he deemed it prudent to do so. We have encountered and effectually dispersed that part of the enemy who succeeded in crossing to this side the Atchafalaya, and have, I am glad to say, captured a considerable quantity of commissary stores and clothing. To-day I am going to make the attempt to burn the saw-mills on the Atchafalaya and destroy their flat-boats and other means of crossing. The scouts and deserters report the enemy scattered along the Red River, the Bayou Yellow, and the Atchafalaya, and making preparations to cross the latter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major CHRISTENSEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Div. of West Mississippi.

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., June 5, 1864.

MAJOR: The infantry came in the day before yesterday, and the cavalry have this moment come in. I sent you a report of what passed up to the 3d of June. After dispersing the small force in front and driving them into the canebrake and across the Atchafalaya, I directed the cavalry to make a raid down the Grossetete, and after passing Rosedale to sweep to their left, and return by the river.

A small camp of the enemy, being a part of Colonel Madison's Texas regiment, between the Bayou Sierra and the Bayou Poydras, was surprised yesterday by a detachment under Colonel Crebs. We killed and wounded some 20 or 30, and captured 10 of the enemy and some dispatches; one dispatch addressed to Major-General Wharton, calling on him for immediate assistance; another headed "News by steamer Grey Eagle," containing a parcel of lies intended to give aid and comfort to the enemy, seriously implicating the clerks on board that boat. I recommend they and their books be detained until the handwriting can be identified. The dispatch from the Grey Eagle is not signed.

The enemy on this side of the Atchafalaya are dispersed and driven into the canebrake. Our cavalry represent them as being uncommonly well mounted. From the prisoners and from other sources I learn this much of the enemy: Only Madison's regiment of Wharton's division Texas cavalry had succeeded in crossing the Atchafalaya when I attacked them; that Polignac's force is still at Yellow Bayou, and the Texas cavalry, one or two divisions (not known), are scattered from there along the line of the Atchafalaya to a point below Morgan's Ferry—on the other side, of course. All the saw-mills except the one destroyed by us are in full activity, and they boast that they are making boats to cross as soon as the river falls.

Major Pollock, an intelligent officer of the engineers, who escaped from Cheneyville on Monday last, and arrived here this morning, says that General Walker, with two divisions returned from Price's

army, reached Alexandria two days after we left, and has since been ordered to Washington, La. Major Pollock states that Taylor is sending a good deal of artillery to Washington, and concentrating supplies at that point. This is all I can learn of the enemy and his forces. I send a copy of this letter to department headquarters. Shall I still retain the detachment of the Thirteenth Army Corps here? As soon as the cavalry have had a couple of days' rest I shall start them again in pursuit of any force that may still remain on this side.

Since writing the above the pickets have brought in a prisoner belonging to Colonel Miller's regiment of Major's division, who informs me his regiment commenced to cross yesterday evening, and that he understood that the whole force was to cross as fast as they could. I shall again attack them, and repeat my request to the gunboats to go around and prevent their recrossing.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Major Christensen,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Hdqrs. Nineteenth Army Corps and U. S. Forces,
Morganza, La., June 10, 1864.

Major: I have the honor to forward the inclosed reports of Brigadier-General Lawler and Colonel Davis, who commanded the forces sent by me to prevent the enemy from crossing the Atchafalaya. I desire to particularly call attention to the last report of Colonel Davis, relating to the clothing, &c., captured in the enemy's camp, which undoubtedly was supplied from New Orleans.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. C. T. Christensen,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Michael K. Lawler, U. S. Army, commanding division, &c.

Hdqrs. First Div. and Detach. 13th Army Corps,
Morganza, La., June 3, 1864.

Captain: In obedience to the orders of Brig. Gen. W. H. Emory, commanding Nineteenth Corps and U. S. Forces, I marched from Morganza on the morning of the 30th ultimo, having under my command the detachment of the Thirteenth Corps at this point, Sharpe's brigade and a battery from the Nineteenth Corps, and about 1,700 cavalry, under Col. E. J. Davis. The enemy were reported to have crossed the Atchafalaya at Morgan's Ferry on the day previous with a force from 3,000 to 7,000 men and two pieces of artillery. My instructions were to move out to the junction of the Fordoche and

Morgan's Ferry roads and to attack and beat the enemy should they be found there. The cavalry advance, under Colonel Chrysler, occupied the junction of the roads at 7 a. m., and it was definitely ascertained that there was no enemy in force in that vicinity, and that only some 300 or 400 of them had been there, and those on the approach of our troops retreated down the road toward Livonia. My infantry arrived at the junction at 9 a. m., and placing them in position along Bayou Fordoche, I directed Colonel Davis to send forward a brigade of his cavalry to reconnoiter on the Morgan's Ferry road. Chrysler's brigade was dispatched and returned at 4 p. m. No enemy were found this side the river. The colonel reported a saw-mill in active operation on the opposite side from where the road first strikes the river, and discovered 3 miles farther up at the ferry five flats, each capable of carrying from 8 to 10 men and horses, moored to the west bank. No difficulty was experienced by the colonel in going to the ferry, but in returning a small force of the enemy opened upon him from behind the levee on the opposite shore. As it was a running fire, however, no damage was done our men. Satisfied that there was no considerable hostile force this side of the Atchafalaya, I determined to return to Morganza by way of Livonia and the False River road, clearing the country thoroughly before me. Accordingly, my command moved from the junction at 4 p. m., Crebs' brigade of cavalry having the advance and Chrysler's the rear. At Fordoche bridge the enemy were found apparently in position, and threw three or four shells at our cavalry skirmishers. A section of Norris' battery opened and soon silenced their gun. An advance of the cavalry immediately afterward put them to flight, and pushed them rapidly down the road toward Livonia. They left behind on the field, dead, Lieutenant Leavy, of Madison's (Texas) regiment, and 3 enlisted men, besides several wounded. No further resistance was made to our advance, and we arrived and went into camp near Livonia at 9 p. m. While on the march a small squad of the enemy, taking advantage of the darkness of the night, concealed themselves in the brush across Bayou Fordoche and fired into General McGinnis' command, killing Captain Paul, Twenty-fourth Iowa, and slightly wounding 8 others. A single fire from our men dispersed them.

Learning positively at Livonia that the road to False River was impracticable in consequence of high water and want of bridges, there was nothing to do but retrace my steps. Directing Colonel Davis to move forward 4 or 5 miles on the Rosedale road, on the 31st ultimo, at 5 a. m., the troops marched for the junction. Arrived there at 10 o'clock and went into camp for the night. Colonel Davis did not get in until the afternoon. A report of his operations beyond Livonia has already been sent you. The next morning I sent Colonel Sharpe, with his brigade and four pieces of artillery and 500 cavalry, under Colonel Davis, to the Atchafalaya to destroy the saw-mill and, if possible, the boats at the ferry. The mill was effectually destroyed, as were also two important bridges on the road leading to the river, but in consequence of the great risk troops would run in passing along the river bank, exposed to the enemy's sharpshooters on the west shore, it was not deemed prudent to attempt to reach the ferry, and the expedition by my order returned.

If thought important and desirable the boats can yet be destroyed by a force with a section of artillery moving out on the Texas road.

In the mean time orders had been received directing that the cavalry should visit Rosedale and the False River country, returning to Morganza by the river road. Colonel Davis marched at 9 a. m. June 2, and at 4 p. m. my command broke camp and returned to Morganza. Save the men already mentioned as killed or wounded by the guerrillas in the night attack on McGinnis' division, there was not a man lost in the whole command during the expedition, either killed or wounded, and not a straggler lost.

M. K. LAWLER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Reports of Col. Edmund J. Davis, First Texas Cavalry (Union), commanding Cavalry Forces.

FORDOCHE BRIDGE, LA., *May* 31, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I went 4 miles below Livonia on the Rosedale road this morning, and 6 miles on the Maringouin road. On the Rosedale road there was nothing found at all, and on the other we arrived at the camp of the enemy in the woods in the rear of David Barrow's plantation. The rebels, in my opinion, did not exceed 200, including the Texans who came down; they dispersed in small parties through the canebrake near their camp, mostly taking the trail leading to the Atchafalaya. We destroyed and brought away a considerable quantity of commissary stores. Among the stores destroyed were 18 barrels of pork; also a considerable quantity of clothing. They had only one piece of artillery, and that was an old Fourth of July gun mounted on cart-wheels. It was hid away in the swamp and could not be found, and it was not worth the trouble. I am positively certain that there is no other force in this country, and they are effectually dispersed, and I think the Texans are making for the Atchafalaya to cross. I ascertained that it was impossible to get to Waterloo by the way of Grossetete Bayou, without swimming my command, and it twice. It is 50 yards wide and 15 feet deep, and, consequently, by direction of General Lawler, returned to this point.

Respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Atchafalaya, June 1, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I am opposite the steam mill and where the artillery can destroy the mill. I find that the ferry, where the flats are, is about 2 miles above here, and that the road runs close to the bank of the river, so that it is completely covered by the enemy's sharpshooters. There is great risk of having the horses of the artillery

shot while moving along, either going or returning, and consequently I will not attempt to take it up there till I hear from the general. I will not open on the mill till I hear from the general, as it will be better not to let the enemy know we have any. If I try to move up to the ferry it would take some time to open a road removed from the bayou, as it would have to be cut through the woods all the way, though with a strong pioneer corps it might be done within a day. There are several fine bridges on the road back to your camp, and if they are destroyed the enemy cannot get down by this route to the Fordoche, at any rate with artillery or wagons, as they cross deep sloughs or bayous, with a cypress swamp on the upper side.

Respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS,
Colonel, &c.

[Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,]
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Thirteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. CAVALRY FORCES, NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have to report that, in obedience to verbal orders from headquarters Nineteenth Army Corps, of May 29, I, at 4 a. m. of the following morning, put this command (with the exception of the Third Massachusetts, left here) in march for the Fordoche Bayou and Morgan's Ferry. At 6.15 a. m. I arrived at the point where the Morgan's Ferry road leaves the Fordoche, and (as I had been directed) there awaited the arrival of the infantry under Brigadier-General Lawler. We found here a small party (about 50), which was early driven down the Fordoche, leaving a prisoner in our hands, and taking off several wounded.

When General Lawler came up I detached Colonel Chrysler, with the Sixth Massachusetts, Second New Hampshire, and Third Maryland, to visit Morgan's Ferry, and try to ascertain what force of the enemy had passed or was passing the Atchafalaya at that point. I have not had an official report from Colonel Chrysler, but I understand he found no indications by which the strength of the enemy on this side of the Atchafalaya could be ascertained. On his return, at 3 p. m., I left his command, by direction of General Lawler, to act as rear guard for the infantry, and with the First Louisiana, Eighty-seventh Illinois, and Second New York, commenced pushing down the Fordoche in advance of General Lawler's infantry, and reached Livonia, on the Grossetete, at about 8 p. m., driving and skirmishing during the afternoon with a party of about 200 rebels, mostly Texans, under the command of Colonel Madison. They left on the route a lieutenant and several men dead. The next morning General Lawler returned to the Morgan's Ferry road, and, with the three regiments last named, I followed the enemy down the Grossetete and Maringouin Bayous to their camp in a dense canebrake back of the plantation of David Barrow (uncle of Ratcliffe, the guerrilla), where they were dispersed, and a considerable quantity of commissary stores and clothing destroyed or brought away. We returned that afternoon to General Lawler's position.

On the morning of the 1st instant I went, by General Lawler's direction, to the Atchafalaya, and with a section of the Seventh

Massachusetts Battery the saw-mill on the opposite bank was destroyed, or at least the machinery rendered useless. On our return the bridges from Morgan's Ferry to the Fordoche were destroyed.

On the next morning, at about 10 a. m., by direction from headquarters Nineteenth Army Corps, I again started down the Fordoche and Grossetete, leaving the Third Maryland with General Lawler. We reached Woolfolk's plantation the same evening and camped there, driving away a small picket of the enemy. The next morning a drive of 3 miles brought us to the Rosedale draw-bridge over the Grossetete, which we crossed, and went by what is called the plank road to the Mississippi River, reaching this at 2 p. m., near Lobdell's Landing.

The bridge on this road at Cocodrie Bayou or lake had been burned some time since by the rebels, but Colonel Chrysler very promptly laid a good road over the railroad bridge with plank taken from some of the railroad station buildings. The road through from Rosedale to Lobdell's, 15 miles, is very bad in wet weather such as we had. We camped that evening on the Mississippi, about 4 or 5 miles below False River. When I reached False River, about 8 a. m. of the next day (4th instant), I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs, with 300 of his best horses, to make the circuit of the outside of False River, and Colonel Chrysler, with the same number from the Fourth Brigade, to go around the inside of the river. To Colonel Chrysler nothing of importance occurred. He reports that the settlers on the inner side of False River are mostly very small farmers and poor. Lieutenant-Colonel Crebs had not proceeded more than 6 or 8 miles when he came suddenly upon a small party of 50 or 60 rebels (being a company of scouts known as McNelly's). Colonel Crebs immediately charged them and succeeded in killing and wounding 4 and taking a lieutenant and 7 men prisoners. Colonel Crebs lost 1 killed and 2 wounded. His horses were so much used up by their hard service that he did not take the whole rebel party, as would otherwise have been the case. He reports a plenty of corn on that road.

Both parties rejoined me at camp of last night, about 8 miles this side of Waterloo, and we returned to this place this morning. The results of the whole expedition have been some 15 prisoners taken and from 25 to 30 (including at least 1 officer) killed and wounded. I have reason to believe that Colonel Madison with his Texans took a trail to the Atchafalaya for the purpose of recrossing. I do not think there is now a force exceeding 300 or 400 on this side of the Atchafalaya. These are lying around in small parties, and from the nature of the country can easily secrete themselves. Heavy rains or an overflow of the river would drive them from the swamps and make their capture easy.

Respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS,
Colonel, Comdg. Cavalry, 19th Army Corps.

[Capt. Frederic Speed,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

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Hdqrs. Cavalry Forces, Nineteenth Army Corps,
June 7, 1864.

Captain: In addition to report of proceedings on the recent expedition down the Grossetete I have to state that the commissary stores

and clothing captured and destroyed at the camp of the guerrillas in rear of the plantation of David Barrow were evidently brought from the loyal States. The 18 barrels of pork destroyed bore New York brands; the hats, drawers, undershirts, &c., were evidently of Northern make. The negroes and others report that these articles are landed on the bank of the Mississippi and thence hauled to the camp of the rebels. They say that the most of them came from about Baton Rouge. From my own observation and from information I have come to the conclusion that there is a regular and quite extensive business of this sort carried on principally from Baton Rouge, Plaquemine, &c. The guerrilla, Captain Ratcliffe, I am informed, allows cotton and sugar to be taken through those parts of the country infested by his gang on payment of certain toll, either in supplies of those articles the rebels want or in money.

Respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS,
Colonel, Comdg. Cavalry, 19th Army Corps.

[Capt. FREDERIC SPEED,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

JUNE 1, 1864.—Skirmish near Arnoldsville and raid on New Market, Mo.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *June* 1, 1864.

A desperate little fight occurred this morning between a detachment of militia and bushwhackers in the southeastern portion of Buchanan County. The militia were outnumbered and surprised. We lost 3 men killed. I have 200 men in pursuit of the villains. We have captured another of the murderers of Wilson and Christian, who has confessed the murder and revealed the names of his confederates in the crime. I am leaving no stone unturned to discover and summarily punish the guilty parties. The people are clamorous for protection that I am unable to afford from my limited force. Am increasing the loyal militia as rapidly as possible. We must look and prepare for considerable trouble. My advices from the river counties indicate that returning rebels and guerrillas are constantly crossing the river to this side. I have ordered Colonel Williams to Macon to assist in the organization of militia in Northeast Missouri.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

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SAINT JOSEPH, *June* 1, 1864.

The band of guerrillas that encountered our militia this morning near the south line of Buchanan County also made a raid into New Market, Platte County, for plunder. They stole horses, guns, and money, and left in the direction of Platte City. I have

militia after them from Platte City, Weston, and Saint Joseph, nearly 300 in all. They are said to be a portion of the original Quantrill band and are doubtless a part of the grand combination of villains of which we have heretofore been advised. H. T. is here to night. He has done well so far and will immediately take the trail after this band of brigands.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

JUNE 3, 1864.—Skirmish near Neosho, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Capt. Henry D. Moore, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. Ozias Ruark, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Capt. Henry D. Moore, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. BATT., EIGHTH MISSOURI MILITIA CAVALRY,
Neosho, Mo., June 3, 1864.

GENERAL: This morning at about 8 o'clock 20 bushwhackers ran on 2 men of Company L, 3 miles from this place, killing 1 and capturing the other (Sergeant Ruark). I immediately started out a scout of 30 men under Captain Ruark, who overtook the rebels about 9 or 10 miles from here. The captain as soon as he came in sight of the rebels ordered his men to charge. After the fight was over 4 bushwhackers were found dead on the ground. Lieutenant Smith, of Company M, was pursuing a bushwhacker closely, who turned and shot the lieutenant through the head, killing him instantly. Sergeant Ruark was released, and his life no doubt saved by this speedy pursuit.

Your obedient servant,

H. D. MOORE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

General JOHN B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Ozias Ruark, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

POST NEOSHO, MO., *June* —, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In obedience to your orders, on the 3d instant I took command of 30 men of Companies H, L, and M, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry, and Captain Kelso and Lieutenants Hunter and Smith, of the same regiment, and pursued a band of guerrillas

which, under command of one Goode, had skulked slyly within the vicinity of this post and killed 1 soldier and captured another. I struck their trail and followed them about 10 miles, and found them dismounted, and seeing that the prisoners in their custody were out of danger I ordered the men to charge, which they did promptly. The guerrillas were scattered in every direction, and 3 of their number, Steen, Hickey, and Linzy, were killed on the spot. We lost John T. Smith, second lieutenant Company M, Eighth Missouri State Militia, who was shot dead in the charge. Like a brave soldier he died at the post of duty and honor.

I am, captain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

OZIAS RUARK,
Captain Company L, Eighth M. S. M. Cavalry.

Capt. H. D. MOORE,
Commanding Post.

JUNE 3–5, 1864.—Scout from Sedalia to the Blackwater River, Mo.

Report of Capt. William D. Blair, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. CO. B, FOURTH CAV., MO. STATE MIL.,
June 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the results of a scout sent out under me on the 3d instant, consisting of Lieutenant McClellan and 40 enlisted men of Company B, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia. After leaving Sedalia on the above-named day I divided the company, sending Lieutenant McClellan and 28 men directly to the Willow Ford, on La Mine Creek, in Cooper County, Mo., and I proceeded with the remainder toward Mastim's Bridge, on La Mine Creek, on the main road from Boonville, Mo., to Georgetown, Mo., until within some 4 miles of the bridge; then, taking by-paths and old roads, arrived at said Willow Ford just at sunset without hearing of any guerrillas being in that direction. On the morning of the 4th of June, 1864, we started for Pilot Grove, in Cooper County, Mo., where I arrived with the company at 11.30 a. m. with the intention of going into camp, but on hearing of a band of guerrillas in the vicinity of Pilot Grove Post-Office, Cooper County, Mo., started there immediately, but arrived about one hour after they had left. They killed Captain Mayo, of Cooper County, Mo., who at the time was at the post-office. They also shot a Mr. Brownfield, of Pilot Grove, Mo., in the hand, but he made his escape into the brush. After this they took an old road which led into the one that I had just come on, which crossed the La Mine Creek at Willow Ford some 10 miles from the above-named post-office. From there they went directly to Longwood, Mo., and robbed the citizens of what they wanted, leaving some two hours before sunset. I followed them as fast as possible until 11 p. m. of the same day, when I camped on the farm of Mr. Sellers, in Saline County, Mo., until the morning of the 5th instant. We again started in pursuit, crossing Blackwater at Buffalo Ford, 5 miles below Brownsville, Mo., with the expectation of getting ahead of the bushwhackers, but they changed their course and passed up south fork of Blackwater some 9 miles from Brownsville,

Mo., where they began to scatter out in small gangs, and I think from the information obtained from a reliable citizen that a large portion of the 12 guerrillas live in Johnson County, Mo., above Knobnoster, and that the goods they took were for the benefit of their families.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. D. BLAIR,
Capt. Company B, Fourth Cav., Missouri State Militia.

Col. G. H. HALL,
Comdg. 1st and 2d Sub-dists., Dist. Central Mo., Sedalia, Mo.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST AND SECOND SUB-DISTRICTS,
Sedalia, Mo., June 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

A man named Warren, who is said to live near Knobnoster, is said to have been of this party. Mr. Shanks, a reliable citizen, says that these men scattered when they reached the vicinity of Knobnoster and that he is satisfied from what he has heard that this Warren was one of them.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. HALL,
Col. 4th Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. 1st and 2d Sub-dists.

JUNE 4, 1864.—Affair at Hudson's Crossing, Neosho River, Ind. Ter.

Report of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT SCOTT, *June* 6, 1864.

About 40 bushwhackers attacked Captain Craft, of the Indian Brigade, who had started up to meet the refugee train at Hudson's Crossing of the Neosho, 80 miles south of this, on the military road to Fort Gibson, day before yesterday morning at daylight, but were soon repulsed. Following them up, Captain Craft found and burned their camp; released a colored woman and 4 children they had taken from Shawnee Creek last Wednesday. They were half-breed Cherokees in Federal uniform.

C. W. BLAIR.

General MCKEAN.

JUNE 4–17, 1864.—Scouts from Huntersville and Clinton, Ark.

Report of Lieut. Col. James Stuart, Tenth Illinois Cavalry.

HUNTERSVILLE, ARK., *June* 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the scout under my command: In obedience to written instructions from Brigadier-General West, commanding Second Division, dated June 3, 1864, I took 7 commissioned officers and 273 enlisted men of my

command and started the morning of the 4th instant on a scout to Clinton, Ark., and vicinity. I arrived at that point on the morning of the 7th instant; from thence I sent one scout on the Kinderhook and Batesville road and another to Richwoods, on the Clinton and Batesville road, while with the balance of my command I proceeded to scout the south fork of Little Red River, which is very much infested with guerrilla bands. I returned to Clinton on the 8th and waited for the return of the other scouts. Upon their arrival, finding my information regarding Shelby's movements not quite satisfactory, I concluded to move my whole command to Kinderhook, it being a convenient point to send out scouts on either of the roads leading toward Batesville, at which point Shelby was reported to be; it is likewise an important point, from the fact that the Batesville, Richwoods, Searcy, Little Rock, and Clinton roads all come together at this point. From there I sent one scout to Oil Trough Bottom, and another within 5 miles of Batesville, on the Richwoods road; the latter went up near Heath's Ferry. By these scouts I ascertained the fact that Shelby had called together all his command and proceeded down the north side of White River on the morning of the 9th instant, with the intention of attacking Devall's Bluff if practicable; if not, to act along White River, capture boats, and, at the same time, collect McRae's scattered forces, which had been disbanded prior to Shelby's arrival. I would likewise report that he has conscripted every man from the ages of sixteen to fifty along his route, and he has sent Coffee and Schnabel up through Searcy, Newton, Carroll, Marion, and Izard Counties conscripting. I likewise sent a lieutenant and 25 men down toward Searcy to communicate with the Ninth Iowa Cavalry, but found the command had left that vicinity two days previous. This scout captured Lieutenant Johnston and 2 men of the Second Arkansas Cavalry (rebel). I likewise ascertained without a doubt that Shelby only had 1,200 men and four pieces of artillery with him, and that his forces were purposely very much exaggerated by his own command. The country through which my command passed is very mountainous and rocky, consequently hard on horses. Forage and supplies of all kinds were very scarce, having been used by Shelby's command in their passage through and while at Batesville.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES STUART,
Lieutenant-Colonel Tenth Illinois Cav., Comdg. Scout.

Captain FILLEBROWN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 5-9, 1864.—Scout from Warrensburg to the North Blackwater River, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Daniel Shumate, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *June* 9, 1864.

COLONEL: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 9, I marched on the 5th instant, with 20 enlisted men of my company, on a foot scout with five days' rations. Late in the evening of the 5th, we fired on

12 bushwhackers. They were leading 5 horses, which appeared to be heavily packed. This occurred about 10 miles from Warrensburg. On the night of the 5th, we camped in the timber of South Blackwater. On the 6th, we marched across the country from the timber of South Blackwater to the timber of North Blackwater. In this timber we found signs of the enemy in abundance. On the night of the 6th, we encamped in said timber. On the morning of the 7th, we started before daylight. About sunrise we came on a man and 2 women; we fired on the man but he made his escape. From appearances they staid there during the night. He left a Federal overcoat and U. S. blanket. On the evening of the 7th, a party of 18 bushwhackers came in sight of us; fired a shot and retreated into the brush. On the night of the 7th, we camped in the timber of headwaters of North Blackwater. On the 8th, we spent a portion of the day in scouting and watching the roads. Late in the evening we marched down the north side of Blackwater in the direction of Warrensburg. We camped about 5 miles from Columbus, on the road leading to Warrensburg. On the 9th, we arrived at Warrensburg, having marched about 50 miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANIEL SHUMATE,

Second Lieut. Co. I, 1st Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. Co. L, M. S. M.

Col. JAMES MCFERRAN,

Col. First Cav., Mo. State Militia, Comdg. Third Sub-Dist.

JUNE 5–12, 1864.—Scout from Forsyth through Ozark and Douglas Counties, Mo.

Report of Capt. Jacob Cassairt, Eighth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP AT FORSYTH, MO., *June* 12, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report as directed: I started on the march June 5, 1864, seeing considerable signs of guerrillas in vicinity of Beaver and Big Creeks and Little North Fork. At Mountain Home I captured 2 prisoners and 2 others escaped. Seven miles south of Mountain Home I captured 2 others. Continuing the march I arrived at Mr. Wolf's, but found nothing there. There had been 40 men encamped there, but had left the day before for Salem. Colonel Freeman was not, nor had not been, there. The report about him being wounded was true and he is at this time on Spring River below Augusta. During the night the pickets captured 2 men belonging to Colonel Coffee's command, and they report that he is at Mount Oliver with 100 men. They also report that Shelby is at Batesville. The number of men that he has I could not learn. He is in command of the troops this side of Arkansas River. They also report Jackman at Sylamore Mountains, with something near 300 men. These prisoners also state that Shelby intends making a raid into Missouri and to capture Rolla if possible. These reports are confirmed by citizens in the vicinity of Mr. Wolf's. Next morning I started back, scouting the country. On my return on the night of the 10th of June, during a heavy shower of rain, 2 prisoners attempted to escape from the guard, when 1 of them was killed and

the other escaped. While the guard was firing on these 2 that attempted to escape another of the prisoners was accidentally wounded and was left on Little North Fork. I arrived at Forsyth on the 12th instant.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JACOB CASSAIRT,
Capt., Eighth Cav., Missouri State Mil., Comdg. Co. I.

Lieut. W. D. HUBBARD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Springfield, Mo.

JUNE 6, 1864.—Engagement on Old River Lake, or Lake Chicot, Ark.*

REPORTS.†

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps.
No. 2.—Capt. James M. Cockefair, Third Indiana Battery.
No. 3.—Col. Lucius F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 4.—Maj. John C. Becht, Fifth Minnesota Infantry.
No. 5.—Maj. George W. Van Beek, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, commanding Third Brigade.
No. 6.—Capt. Felix W. Doran, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry.
No. 7.—Capt. Alexander J. Campbell, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry.
No. 8.—Col. David Moore, Twenty-first Missouri Infantry, commanding Third Division.
No. 9.—Col. James I. Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.
No. 10.—Capt. Warren C. Jones, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry.
No. 11.—Maj. George W. Howard, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry.
No. 12.—Lieut. Col. Gustavus A. Eberhart, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry.
No. 13.—Maj. Robert W. Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry.
No. 14.—Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry (Confederate), commanding Marmaduke's brigade, including skirmishes June 5 and 7 at Worthington's and Sunnyside Landings.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, U. S. Army, commanding First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Memphis, Tenn., June 15, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the engagement near Lake Village, Ark., on the 6th instant: In obedience to the orders of the general commanding detachment Sixteenth Army Corps, I debarked with the Second and Third Brigades of this division, commanded, respectively, by Col. L. F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota Infantry, and Maj. George W. Van Beek, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, near Sunnyside Landing, Ark., on the evening of the 5th instant, biv-

* Known also as engagement at Ditch Bayou, Fish Bayou, Grand Lake, and Lake Village.
† See also Marmaduke's report, p. 946.

ouacking on the bank of the river, and on the morning of the 6th instant, at 6 o'clock, took up my line of march toward Lake Village, which was some 8 miles distant. After proceeding about 4 miles I came up to our cavalry, which were in advance and were skirmishing with the enemy. I threw out a line of skirmishers, and, in obedience to the order of General Smith, who had then arrived, the cavalry were withdrawn. I then pushed the enemy about 2 miles and found them in position on the opposite side of a bayou, beyond which their skirmishers had retreated. Having no artillery in my command, General Smith ordered Captain Cockefair with his battery to report to me. Colonel Hubbard's brigade formed the right of my line and Major Van Beek's the left. Captain Cockefair's battery was posted in the road on the right and on the bank of the lake. I ordered him to open upon the enemy with his guns; he did so, and they replied vigorously. I then told the captain I would advance the infantry in order to relieve him somewhat from the fire of the enemy's artillery. I then proceeded myself toward the left, and advanced the infantry, supposing he would continue the fire with his battery, which he unfortunately did not do. The line moved up to within short musket-range of the enemy on the opposite side of the bayou, when they were met by a most galling fire from their artillery and musketry. The position occupied by the enemy being in heavy timber their line was to a great extent concealed from our own troops, who were in an open field and greatly exposed to their fire. After engaging them, however, for about an hour the fire of their artillery was silenced and that of the infantry ceased, with the exception of a few scattering shots. At this time Colonel Gilbert, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, who had been sent up by the general commanding to relieve the Third Brigade, First Division (whose ammunition was exhausted), arrived on the field, and was put in position. I immediately rode to the right and ordered Colonel Hubbard to cross the bayou, and Colonel Gilbert to follow. We were detained some time in repairing the bridge, which the enemy had partially destroyed; this enabled them to escape, their force consisting entirely of cavalry and artillery. We then proceeded to Lake Village, where we bivouacked for the night. Both officers and men behaved with gallantry, although fighting at a great disadvantage. I have already forwarded a list of casualties. I herewith inclose the reports of brigade commanders.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. A. MOWER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. J. HOUGH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Right Wing, Sixteenth Army Corps.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. James M. Cockefair, Third Indiana Battery.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INDIANA BATTERY,
On board Steamer White Cloud,
Mississippi River, June 9, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: In compliance with your request, I beg leave to make the following report in relation to the movements of the Third Indiana Battery on the 6th and 7th instant, viz: At 3.30 p. m. on the

evening of the 5th instant the fleet arrived at Sunnyside Landing, Ark., Mississippi River; the battery disembarked and prepared two days' rations. Monday, June 6, the column moved at 7 a. m., the battery in the rear of the Fourteenth Iowa Regiment, Second Brigade, Colonel Shaw commanding. After we had marched about 2 miles I was ordered to move the battery forward in the rear of the First Regiment of the First Brigade, First Division, General Mower commanding. It now commenced raining very fast, and the roads became heavy. We moved on a few miles, when the two rifled guns of the battery were ordered by General Mower to take position in a field on the left of the road. We took the position accordingly and fired a few shells at the enemy. The nature of the ground being such, and very thick brush in front of us, we could not see the enemy or ascertain his position. I reported the fact to General Mower, who ordered me to move up the road bordering Old River Lake. In a short time after we got on the road, the enemy opened his fire on us. General Mower ordered me to open with my two rifled guns. It was impossible to do so in consequence of the narrowness of the road, the lake on my right, and a thick-made growth of bush on my left. The battery was in column of pieces, along the bank of the lake, and in my opinion in great danger of being severely handled by the enemy's fire. I fired some eight or ten rounds of shell, and discovering we were accomplishing nothing, I requested General Mower to let me return by the road we came, about one-quarter of a mile, and deploy in an open field on our left. He refused to grant my request, and we remained on the road, as above stated, under the enemy's fire for about one hour. We were then ordered forward and crossed a bayou, and again opened with the two rifled guns at the retreating enemy. We fired some fourteen shells and were again ordered forward. We saw no more of the enemy, and arrived at Lake Village about 6 p. m. and went into camp with Colonel Hubbard's brigade. Tuesday, June 7, left camp 7 a. m., marched about 10 miles, and arrived at Columbia, Mississippi River, 1 p. m., and immediately embarked on respective boats.

I lost 2 artillery horses in the engagement; they were so badly crippled I ordered them to be shot, which was done.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES M. COCKEFAIR,
Captain, Comdg. Third Indiana Battery.

Lieutenant DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Lucius F. Hubbard, Fifth Minnesota Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Memphis, Tenn., June 11, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit for the information of the general commanding the following details of the part borne by the Second Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in the encounter with the enemy on Old River Lake, Ark., on the 6th of

June, 1864: At 6 o'clock in the morning of the day mentioned, the brigade left its bivouac on the bank of the Mississippi, and took up the line of march on the Lakeville road. The Second Brigade held the advance of the column, and when some 2 miles out encountered a line of the enemy's skirmishers which our cavalry advance guard was vainly endeavoring to press back. At this point, by order of General Mower, I deployed five companies of the Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry as skirmishers and directed them to move forward as rapidly as possible. The balance of the brigade was formed in line of battle and moved up in support of the skirmishers. The enemy, somewhat stubborn at first, soon began to give way and sullenly retire before my advance, and for a distance of several miles continual skirmishing was kept up, with an occasional stand, but of short duration upon the part of the enemy. As we approached a bayou, which ran from the lake at right angles across the road, the enemy showed stronger evidences of fight and developed an intention to make a stand. When within perhaps a half a mile of this bayou a fire was opened upon my line of battle from a battery of four guns in position along the edge of the timber skirting the opposite bank, and as I moved forward the fire became sharp and quite effective. I halted the line of battle when within about 100 yards of the bayou, where the men could obtain shelter, but pushed the skirmishers forward, strengthened to a regiment, to the bank of the stream. As the skirmishers here were within point-blank range of the enemy's muskets and wholly without cover, they suffered much, but not without inflicting serious injury in return. The battery of the enemy soon ceased to work and limbered to the rear. Many of the gunners had been shot down, and at one piece opposite the right of my line but a single man was left, who attached a rope to the gun, with which it was dragged away. As the bayou was wide and the water apparently deep, and the bridge where the road crosses it having been torn up, I deemed it prudent before attempting to effect a passage to endeavor to drive the enemy's sharpshooters from the opposite bank, where they were thickly posted under cover of the timber and protected by the undulations of the ground. I therefore strengthened my line of skirmishers still further, and by means of a well-directed fire the enemy was dislodged and forced back. The bayou was now crossed and the retreating enemy pursued without further encounter to the village of Lakeville. During the advance and the progress of the fight a hard rain-storm prevailed, which greatly added to the labor of the men and caused much exhaustion and fatigue. No part of the command, however, evinced a disposition to lag, but bore itself throughout with its usual gallantry, and sustained its established reputation for good conduct on the field.

The brigade suffered much in this action, sustaining the loss of many valuable officers and men. Major Miles, Forty-seventh Illinois Regiment, was very seriously wounded while at his post coolly and gallantly discharging his duty. Captain Biser, of the same regiment, received a mortal wound while advancing his company deployed as skirmishers. Though the command will mourn for these gallant officers and the service feel it has sustained a loss, yet there is relief in the assurance that they fell while bravely fighting, and to the last presented their front to the foe. To Colonel McClure, Forty-seventh Illinois; Major Becht, Fifth Minnesota, and

Major Britton, Eighth Wisconsin, regimental commanders, are due my acknowledgments for efficient co-operation during the action. Subjoined is a summary of casualties the command sustained:

Command.	Officers.		Enlisted men.		Aggregate.
	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.	
47th Illinois Infantry	1	1	6	19	27
5th Minnesota Veteran Infantry	.....	.....	1	16	*17
8th Wisconsin Veteran Infantry	.....	.....	3	16	19
Total	1	1	10	51	63

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. F. HUBBARD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. J. B. SAMPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 4.

Report of Maj. John C. Becht, Fifth Minnesota Infantry.

HDQRS. FIFTH REGT. MINNESOTA VET. VOLS.,
Memphis, Tenn., June 10, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the Fifth Minnesota was engaged in the battle with General Marmaduke's forces near Lakeville, Ark., on the 6th instant. General Smith's detachment of the Sixteenth Army Corps landed near the foot of Lake Village on the evening of the 5th, and marched early the next morning, Colonel Hubbard's brigade in the advance. On the first appearance of the enemy our brigade was formed in line of battle, and a company from each regiment deployed forward as skirmishers. The enemy gave us a running fight for 5 or 6 miles, using two pieces of artillery against us as often as opportunities were favorable and retaining their position as long as a due regard for their safety would allow. The rebels having gained the rear of our line and taken up the bridge, which afforded themselves a protection, commenced to inaugurate a warm and spirited engagement. Our line then advanced over a low, level bottomland, against a galling fire of musketry and of grape and canister from two full batteries, until we reached the bank of the bayou, which was but a few yards wide, and had no opening levee or embankment on either side. An open timber, however, afforded the rebels a great deal of protection which was denied to us.

Once in fair sight and shot of the enemy's battery, we soon silenced it, and after a severe and prolonged musketry firing drove him from his position, rebuilt the bridge, crossed the bayou, and thus ended the fight. The loss in our division, consisting of five regiments and 1,500 or 1,600 men, was not less than 100 killed and

* But see Becht's report, following.

wounded, the Fifth Minnesota providentially suffering less than any other regiment—killed, 1; severely wounded, 1; slightly wounded, 9; total, 11.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BECHT,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Col. OSCAR MALMROS,
Adjutant-General of Minnesota.

No. 5.

Report of Maj. George W. Van Beek, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, commanding Third Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Steamer Idaho, Mississippi River, June 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Third Brigade of the First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, in the battle of Old River Lake, Ark., on the 6th day of June, 1864: This brigade (consisting of the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and detachments of the Eleventh Missouri and Eighth and Twelfth Iowa Veteran Volunteer Infantry Regiments) moved from the place where it had bivouacked during the night on the river bank near Sunnyside Landing, Ark. At 6 a. m. on the 6th instant, by order of Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, Lieut. Col. William B. Keeler, on account of illness, remained on the boat, and I, being the senior officer present, assumed command of the brigade. After marching about 2 miles, and when near the west bank of Old River Lake, the enemy began skirmishing with the troops in our advance; they used artillery and musketry, but were steadily driven by our skirmishers and occasional shots from our artillery about 2 miles along the bank of the lake. At about 11 a. m. they made a determined stand in the edge of a woods, with their artillery advantageously posted, and their left flank protected by the lake. This brigade, by order of Brigadier-General Mower, formed into line of battle on the left of the Second Brigade of this division, and proceeded at once to move on the enemy's position, and, if possible, to capture his artillery. We soon found ourselves much exposed to a severe fire of shell and schrapnel, as we were moving forward through a field grown with weeds and briars. One shot at this time struck in Company E (color company) of the Thirty-fifth Regiment, tearing the bodies of 5 men in a frightful manner, killing 2 and wounding 3. From the incessant and heavy rain that had been falling for several hours the ground was wet and soft, making it very difficult for troops to move with rapidity. We pressed forward under the firing without halting a moment. When we were within 150 yards of the enemy they opened a terrific musketry (added to their artillery) fire upon our advancing line. At the word a shout was raised along our entire line, as they rushed toward the enemy on double-quick, firing as they ran. When within 75 paces of the enemy we encountered a fence; the troops were ordered over at once, and to rush upon the enemy, but about 6 paces on the other side of the fence we came to an impassable bayou, about 40 yards wide, and deep water. The men were ordered to protect themselves

by lying down, and as best they could, from the severe fire from the enemy posted on the opposite side of the bayou, and continued to fire upon them. At this time Maj. Abraham John, commanding the Thirty-fifth Regiment, fell from his horse mortally wounded by a rifle-ball passing through his body. He fell while gallantly encouraging his men to deeds of valor by his words and actions. Thus fell one of our best and bravest men, a good officer and true patriot. We continued an incessant fire of musketry for about one hour, when the firing (except an occasional shot) from the enemy ceased, and they had apparently left their position.

Our supply of ammunition being nearly exhausted, we were relieved by the Second Brigade of the Third Division. We fell back about 100 yards, gathered our killed for burial, and had our wounded cared for, replenished our cartridge-boxes, and were again ordered to pursue the enemy. At 3 p. m. we moved forward, and at 6 p. m. went into camp at Lake Village.

The following is a list of the casualties:*

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. VAN BEEK,
Major Thirty-third Missouri Infy. Vols., Comdg. Brigade.

Lieut. CHARLES CHRISTENSEN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 6.

Report of Capt. Felix W. Doran, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-FIFTH IOWA INFANTRY VOLS.,
On board Steamer Idaho, Mississippi River, June 9, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to herewith transmit to you a report of the part taken by the Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry Volunteers in the battle at Old River Lake, Chicot County, Ark., on the 6th instant: On the evening of the 5th, the regiment disembarked about 2 miles below Greenville, on the Arkansas side of the Mississippi River, in obedience to orders from Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Mower, and bivouacked for the night a few rods from the river bank. About 7 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, the Thirty-fifth, commanded by Maj. Abraham John, received orders to march. We had not proceeded over a mile from the river when we were notified, by repeated discharges of musketry, that our cavalry had met the enemy. The regiment closed up and Major John gave the order to load at will, which, being done, we again moved forward, though with much difficulty, as the falling rain had rendered the roads very bad. After proceeding about a mile from the bayou we heard the first firing. We came in view of Old River Lake, along the left shore of which we marched for about 2 miles, when we halted while one of our batteries moved into position on our left and threw a few shot forward, which elicited a corresponding number by way of reply from the enemy. Being satisfied that there was something heavy ahead we again passed forward, and continued marching until we found by unmistakable signs that the enemy had made a stand in front. We then filed off to the left into a large field covered with a growth of dead leaves and

* Nominal list (omitted) shows 9 enlisted men killed and 2 officers and 30 enlisted men wounded in the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, and 1 officer and 7 enlisted men killed and 1 officer and 9 enlisted men wounded in the Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry.

briars. Here we formed line of battle on the left of the Thirty-third Missouri, and moved forward under a heavy artillery fire from the enemy, who was posted advantageously in a dense forest in front. Although weighed down by wet clothes, muddy boots, &c., the men advanced in good style through the tall tangle weeds and briars. When about midway between where we had formed line of battle and the enemy's position a shell from one of his guns exploded in the ranks of Company E, killing 2 men instantly and wounding 3 more. After closing the ranks we again pushed forward, and when within about 100 yards of the enemy's position we opened our fire upon him, but here an unexpected obstacle presented itself immediately in front, in the shape of a deep bayou. This unlooked-for bayou at such a time and such a place was calculated to dampen the ardor of any man or body of men advancing, as we supposed, to charge a battery, but it had but little effect on the "Thirty-fives," for they commenced jumping and climbing over a high fence 3 or 4 rods from and running parallel with the bayou. In crossing this fence several of our men were wounded. Finding it impossible to ford the bayou and that they could go no farther, the command posted itself along the bayou and opened a heavy musketry fire on the enemy. This continued from a half to three-fourths of an hour, when an order came from the right to cease firing. I obeyed, and we ceased firing. In a few moments after I heard some one calling me by name; I turned and saw Major Van Beek, of the Thirty-third Missouri, commanding our brigade, who said, "Captain, keep on firing; those are not our men; I can see a hundred of them." I gave orders to fire, which commenced along the whole of our line. We continued firing until Lieutenant Hoover, acting assistant adjutant-general, came to notify me that we would soon be relieved by another brigade. This was the first intimation I had that our brave little major was wounded, and that Captain Dill, of Company D, had met the same fate. The brigade soon came up and I immediately took command of the regiment and marched it to an open space, where we formed in line and stacked arms.

I next had ammunition sent for and distributed among the command. This done, I ordered a detail of men from each company to look after the killed and wounded. Those killed (7 in number) were decently interred, and the wounded (10) carefully conveyed to the ambulances. After paying the last sad rites to the remains of our brave comrades we again moved forward in pursuit of the enemy, whom we had driven from their almost impregnable position, but we failed to overtake him. We arrived near nightfall at Lake Village, 6 miles from the field of battle, and camped for the night. The next morning we resumed our march and arrived about noon at Columbia, on the Mississippi River, where we found our transports awaiting our arrival.

In closing this report it would be invidious, perhaps unjust, to mention the names of any one in particular as being brave, &c. They all acted like men who were fighting for a principle, not exactly for glory or for fame; but both fame and glory, bright as sunbeams, will cluster round the name of each of our honored dead.

Major, I have the honor to remain, yours, respectfully,

F. W. DORAN,
Captain, Comdg. Thirty-fifth Iowa Infy. Vols.

Maj. GEORGE W. VAN BEEK,
Commanding Third Brigade.

No. 7.

Report of Capt. Alexander J. Campbell, Thirty-third Missouri Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS,
On board Trans. Emma Boyd, Miss. River, June 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders received from brigade headquarters, this regiment moved at 6 a. m., June 6, from Sunnyside Landing (where it had bivouacked the previous night), following the Second Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, to within a distance of 2 miles of Lake Village, where it was deployed into line on the left of the Second Brigade. Being ordered to advance on the enemy, we complied, moving steadily and unflinchingly forward under a most terrific and destructive fire of shell and canister from a masked battery and bullets from infantry. The ground passed over was rendered almost impassable on account of the heavy rains of the morning and the briars and cottonwood by which it was covered. We discovered that in order to dispossess the enemy we had to cross an unfordable bayou, on the opposite side of which he was strongly posted. After an hour's firing we succeeded in dislodging him.

Being notified that Colonel Gilbert would relieve us, orders were given accordingly. We retired about 75 paces, collected our dead for interment, and our wounded and ordnance for removal; such being effected, we replenished our cartridge-boxes with ammunition and marched after the enemy as far as Lake Village. Darkness coming on, we were ordered to bivouac for the night. We moved forward at 6 o'clock, and arrived at 11 a. m. at Craig's Landing, where we embarked on the transports at 1 p. m. on the 7th instant. Our loss, which is very heavy, was principally sustained by the right wing, it being easily observed and exposed to a heavy enfilading fire. The Thirty-third Regiment has in this severe test sustained its reputation, men and officers acting nobly in fighting for our glorious Union. The following is a list of casualties:*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,
Captain Company C, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. H. HOOVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 8.

Report of Col. David Moore, Twenty-first Missouri Infantry, commanding Third Division.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Memphis, Tenn., June 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the engagement at Fish Bayou, on the 6th instant. In compliance with orders received from you, I

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 9 enlisted men killed and 2 officers and 30 enlisted men wounded.

disembarked the command at Sunnyside Landing at 5 p. m. of 5th instant and encamped for the night. The next morning at 6 a. m. I moved with the division on the road leading to Old River Lake. Reaching the lower end of the lake the enemy appeared in front. By order received from you the Third Indiana Battery was sent forward to join General Mower's command. After proceeding a short distance on the road, the Second Brigade of the Third Division was sent forward and reported to General Mower. For the detailed account of the part taken by the Second Brigade you are respectfully referred to the official report, herewith inclosed, of Col. J. I. Gilbert, commanding brigade.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MOORE,
Colonel Twenty-first Missouri, Comdg. Division.

Capt. J. HOUGH,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Detach. Sixteenth Army Corps.

No. 9.

Report of Col. James I. Gilbert, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., 16TH ARMY CORPS,
Columbia, Ark., June 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Second Brigade in the engagement with the enemy on the 6th instant at Fish Bayou, Ark.: At 7 a. m., pursuant to your orders, the command, consisting of the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, Capt. W. C. Jones commanding; Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, Maj. George W. Howard commanding; Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, Lieut. Col. G. A. Eberhart commanding; Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry, Maj. R. W. Fyan commanding, and the Third Indiana Battery, Capt. J. M. Cockefair commanding, left Sunnyside Landing, where it had disembarked and camped the previous night, and moved out on the road leading to the rear of Old River Lake. A heavy rain set in soon after starting, which thoroughly drenched the men and made the marching very difficult. The command had reached the lower end of the lake, when the enemy appeared in front and skirmishing with him commenced. At this time an order was received to send forward the Third Indiana Battery, which was promptly executed, when the two rifled guns of the battery were ordered into position in a field upon the left of the road, which was accordingly done and a few shells thrown at the enemy, who gradually fell back to the farther side of Fish Bayou, where he formed line nearly perpendicular to the road along the side of the lake upon which our column advanced, and there made a determined stand. The Third Indiana Battery here again engaged the enemy's artillery, but owing to the narrowness of the road, the lake upon one side and thick underbrush upon the other, an advantageous position could not be obtained and consequently but comparatively little damage effected upon the enemy. At this time the two brigades of the First Division, having moved up close to the bayou, were engaged

in a sharp musketry fight with the enemy, when about 1 p. m. an order was received to move forward the Second Brigade and form line of battle some 300 paces in their rear. I immediately advanced in an old field, thickly covered with underbrush and tall weeds and briars, and deployed into line at the point designated. My right resting upon the road, was held by the Thirty-second Iowa, the right and left center by the Fourteenth Iowa and Twenty-fourth Missouri, respectively, and the left by the Twenty-seventh Iowa. While forming line, the enemy caught sight of us, and threw two or three shells with unusual precision, which struck just in front and must have materially damaged us had they not failed to explode. I at once sent Lieutenant Donnan of my staff to report my arrival to General Mower (as it was impossible for him to see our approach through the brush), who ordered me to move up to the bayou and relieve the brigade upon the left. I immediately moved to the left and forward to the position assigned, and in so doing was under a heavy musketry fire from the enemy, who were strongly posted in the thick timber upon the opposite side of the bayou. Orders were now given to fire, which the men executed with great rapidity and with telling effect. A few volleys were poured in when the enemy retreated from the field. The command was about three-quarters of an hour under the fire of the enemy.

It gives me great pleasure to express my admiration for the good conduct displayed by both officers and men throughout the action. I also wish to express my thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel Eberhart, of the Thirty-second Iowa, and his command, who were under the hottest of the fire, and bore themselves gallantly. I cannot fail also to favorably mention W. G. Donnan, lieutenant, Twenty-seventh Iowa, and acting assistant adjutant-general, and R. Rees, lieutenant, Twenty-first Missouri, and acting assistant inspector-general, who with coolness, promptness, and energy, in the performance of staff duties, rendered me valuable assistance on the field. Appended you will find a list of the casualties.*

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES I. GILBERT,
Colonel Twenty-seventh Iowa, Comdg. Brigade.

Lieut. JAMES B. COMSTOCK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 10.

Report of Capt. Warren C. Jones, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
Steamer W. L. Ewing, June 7, 1864.

COLONEL: Agreeably to instructions from your headquarters I submit the following official report of the part taken by the Fourteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the battle of Old River Lake, Ark., June 6, 1864: At 12 m. the regiment took position on the left of the Lake Village road, the right resting upon the left of the Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry and fronting Fish Bayou, upon the

*Nominal list (omitted) shows 4 enlisted men killed, 5 enlisted men wounded, and 2 enlisted men missing.

opposite bank of which the rebels were posted, their batteries upon our front and right. The enemy opened upon us with solid shot, doing no damage. Our line then advanced steadily through a dead briar thicket until within 20 feet of the bayou, when we opened our fire in volley by battalions. The enemy replied, their balls passing over our heads. We continued our fire until the enemy broke and fled, leaving us masters of the field. The depth of the water in the bayou prevented our charging their batteries. No casualties.

Your most obedient servant,

WARREN C. JONES,
Capt., Comdg. Fourteenth Iowa Vol. Infantry.

Col. JAMES I. GILBERT,
Commanding Second Brigade.

No. 11.

Report of Maj. George W. Howard, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. TWENTY-SEVENTH REGT. IOWA VOL. INFY.,
Steamer Diadem, June 7, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report the part my command took at the battle of Ditch Bayou, June 6, 1864: About 2 miles in the rear of Ditch Bayou, Colonel Gilbert was ordered by Colonel Shaw to take command of the brigade, of which my regiment formed a part, and I assumed command of the regiment. After advancing about a mile my regiment was ordered into line of battle. Our position was at the left of our brigade, which was at the left of and at right angles with the Lake Village road. We were then ordered to advance in line of battle. When within about 20 rods of the bayou we were ordered to march by the left flank into a field some 40 rods to our left. General Mower then directed me to deploy two companies of my regiment as skirmishers to find, if possible, a ford across the bayou. I ordered Companies A and B to comply with the order. My regiment was soon ordered to the bayou. In a short time I was ordered to march by the right flank and joined our brigade at the bridge crossing the bayou. Companies A and B joined us here. They were unsuccessful in finding a ford. The fire of the enemy was very light on the left of our position, and I have no casualties to report.

Very respectfully,

GEO. W. HOWARD,
Major, Commanding Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 12.

Report of Lieut. Col. Gustavus A. Eberhart, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-SECOND REGT. IOWA INFANTRY,
Steamer White Cloud, June 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that while the First and Third Divisions were on the march on the 6th instant, the advance of the column having met and engaged the enemy, orders were received to

move the Second Brigade forward to support the advance brigades. Moving up within 300 yards of the first line, we were ordered to form in line of battle. This was done, the right of my regiment forming across the road and resting on the lake. As soon as formed we moved forward with the brigade until we came upon the line we were to have supported. We were then ordered to move by the left flank. While executing this movement we lost 1 man killed and 1 wounded from the fire of the enemy. When clear from the other brigade we moved forward in line to the bayou and opened on the enemy and drove him after an action of fifteen minutes. While engaged, the regiment lost 3 killed and 3 wounded, making our total loss 4 killed and 4 wounded, 1 missing. Officers and men conducted themselves in a creditable manner, they supposing that our forward movement was to charge the enemy's battery, not knowing that the bayou was in our front until we came on it. The march was continued from this point without again seeing the enemy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours,

G. A. EBERHART,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. W. G. DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 13.

Report of Maj. Robert W. Fyan, Twenty-fourth Missouri Infantry.

HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH MISSOURI VOL. INFANTRY,
On board Shenango, June 7, 1864.

In obedience to orders received from brigade headquarters, this date, I make the following report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Missouri Volunteers in the recent engagement at Grand Lake, Ark., on the 6th instant: On the evening of the 5th, the regiment disembarked as ordered, and commenced march with the brigade and division on the morning of the 6th. Some 8 miles from the river and at Grand Lake we received orders from Colonel Gilbert, commanding brigade, to advance and take position in line of battle on the left of the Fourteenth Iowa, which order was obeyed, one or two cannon-shot falling in the ranks of the regiment as it moved into position—the left center of the brigade. Brigade being formed in line of battle, we moved on the enemy, who were posted across a bayou, and in so doing were under a heavy musketry fire from the enemy. Reaching the fence on the edge of the bayou we poured one volley into the enemy, who fell back, except a few who were posted behind fallen timber. Between these sharpshooters and the regiment a desultory fire was kept up for some minutes, until the former withdrew. We remained in our position on the bayou until we received orders from brigade commander to move by the right flank with brigade and take up line of march. I am happy to state that no casualties occurred in the regiment, owing, I think, to our getting the first fire on the enemy. All the officers and men bore themselves gallantly.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. FYAN,
Major, Comdg. Twenty-fourth Missouri Vol. Infantry.

Lieutenant DONNAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 14.

Report of Col. Colton Greene, Third Missouri Cavalry (Confederate), commanding Marmaduke's brigade, including skirmishes June 5 and 7 at Worthington's and Sunnyside Landings.

HEADQUARTERS MARMADUKE'S BRIGADE,
In the Field, June 9, 1864.

MAJOR: In my No. 32, recording the operations of this brigade on the Mississippi, I reported that on the 3d and 4th instant no boats appeared on that river. On the morning of the 5th, my scouts brought me intelligence that twelve transports and gun-boats were coming up. Then a fleet, numbering in all twenty-seven boats, seven of which were iron-clads and gun-boats, had made its appearance. They were watched and found to pass Sunnyside, when late in the afternoon the marine fleet, with the marine cavalry brigade and the Second Wisconsin Cavalry, dropped down and debarked its troops at Worthington's lower landing. This force advanced about sunset and drove in my pickets, which were re-enforced by a detachment under Major Porter, when the enemy retired to his boats. My train was sent to the rear across Ditch Bayou and dispositions made for battle. At sunrise of the 6th, Burbridge's regiment was sent forward under command of Col. John Q. Burbridge to feel the enemy. He was found formed at Worthington's lake plantation in strong cavalry force, and skirmishing at once began. Roberts' and Hulett's companies were dismounted and advanced, and learning the whole fleet had landed, Kitchen's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Ellison, was deployed as mounted skirmishers to the right of Burbridge, the whole of which regiment was dismounted and deployed, its left resting on the lake. A detachment of Greene's and Jeffers' regiments was sent to the extreme right to reconnoiter and observe. My line of skirmishers extended from the lake through Johnson's plantation to the timber, presenting a front of three-quarters of a mile. All of my guns excepting one rifle of Hughey's battery (a section of which had reported to me) were sent across Ditch Bayou. My position was a peculiar one, and it behooved me to look as much to my rear and right as to my front. There were but two outlets from it—one by Beasley's, west, the other by Lake Village—both of which it was easy for the enemy to occupy. I therefore sent a strong force under Major Bennett, with Harris' battery, at Lake Village, to hold the enemy in check should he advance from Columbia; placed a detachment at Beasley's, on Bayou Mason, to hold the bridge, and guarded myself by pickets at every exposed point. These dispositions were made during the night of the 5th.

The enemy's infantry debouched from the timber at the foot of Old River Lake and at once deployed to my right. The skirmishing was general along the whole line. Burbridge and Ellison fell back slowly before the increasing force, halting often and checking the advance.

My main line, consisting of Greene's and Jeffers', reduced by heavy details, was formed in the grove which skirted my camp (Red Leaf), while Lawther's regiment supported the artillery sent 2 miles to the rear at Ditch Bayou. I determined to skirmish with the enemy to this bayou and there make a stand. The enemy was discovered to be in large force. Major-General Smith commanded, and parts of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Army Corps, numbering

some 8,000 infantry, with 700 cavalry and twelve cannon, were in my front. My force did not exceed 600 men and six cannon.

My skirmishers behaved with admirable coolness; made a stand at Red Leaf, where I used one gun. This brought the timid enemy to a halt, and taking advantage of it I retired my line and artillery a quarter of a mile. From this point I retired skirmishing and withdrew my force to the north side of Ditch Bayou—a deep cut 3 miles in length and running from Old River Lake to Bayou Mason. Here four guns of Pratt's battery were placed next to the lake and covering the bridge, supported by Greene's regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, and then Lawther's regiment, supporting Hughey's section, Lieutenant Cortright commanding. Jeffers' regiment formed the extreme right. Burbridge and Ellison were held in reserve.

The enemy advanced to within 700 yards, his line extending over a mile, supported by a column of infantry moving up the levee road on the lake, when we opened with artillery. The effect was visible. His line and column were thrown into confusion. The firing now became general along the line and continued for an hour, when the enemy massed and attempted to turn my right. Kitchen's regiment was sent to its support and the artillery ordered to fire by the right oblique with canister. The enemy gave way, but again renewed the fight with determination. Thus was the action continued until 2.30 o'clock, against odds of seven to one. My ammunition was exhausted, my rear not secure, and I determined to withdraw. Jeffers' and Kitchen's regiments and Pratt's battery were retired, then Lawther's, then Cortright's section. Burbridge's regiment was now advanced and covered the retiring troops. After engaging the enemy for half an hour Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell was likewise withdrawn. I now mounted Lawther's regiment, behind which Burbridge retired. Everything moved off slowly and in good order. Colonel Lawther brought up the rear, skirmishing. I moved to Parker's, on Bayou Mason, 3 miles west of Lake Village, at which place the enemy made his bivouac.

At 9 o'clock of the 7th, my scouts reported the enemy moving around the lake toward the river, and I at once sent Lawther in pursuit. He harassed him to his boats.

My loss was light considering the heavy force we engaged—1 officer and 3 men killed, 7 officers and 26 men wounded; total, 4 killed and 33 wounded. There were 11 horses killed and 21 wounded. From prisoners captured I learn that the enemy's loss exceeded 250 in killed and wounded. Eight of the enemy were captured by my scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

COLTON GREENE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. H. EWING,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 6, 1864.—Skirmish at Bealer's Ferry, on Little Red River, Ark.

Report of Col. Washington F. Geiger, Eighth Missouri Cavalry.

DEVALL'S BLUFF, *June* 8, 1864.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with General Orders, No. 14, headquarters District of Little Rock, I have the honor to report that the

Eighth Missouri Cavalry arrived here from Little Red River last night, being relieved by battalion Ninth Iowa Cavalry. On the evening of the 6th instant a detachment of 25 men of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry had a skirmish with a party of 40 of Shelby's cavalry, at Bealer's Ferry, on Little Red River. Our loss, 1 man killed, 2 wounded. Enemy's loss, 1 killed, 1 lieutenant and 4 men taken prisoners. Enemy routed, pursuing them 4 miles. Shelby's forces reported between Batesville and Jacksonport. No troops have arrived or left the post to-day. No news of importance.

W. F. GEIGER,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 7, 1864.—Affair at Sikeston, Mo.

Reports of Col. John B. Rogers, Second Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., June 8, 1864.

Our men came upon 6 guerrillas at Sikeston about sunset last night, and succeeded in killing the notorious guerrilla Wright. The others escaped, but some of them were wounded, and there was blood on the trail. They took 1 prisoner; he was too drunk to kill. A large party were heard from below, and my men are after them.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel.

Brigadier-General EWING.

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CAPE GIRARDEAU, *June* 8, 1864.

I have just received the following, dated 12 o'clock to-day:

Captain EWING:

I am en route to Sikeston [after] the rebel bushwhackers. A party of soldiers last evening killed and wounded 11. Send some men to watch the crossing as I run them.

J. A. RICE,
Lieutenant.

The line is again cut below here and New Madrid. I do not believe it can be kept up just now.

EWING.

I will send 100 men down to help Ewing in the morning, and will send 50 in below from Bloomfield.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel.

General EWING.

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HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT,
Cape Girardeau, Mo., June 8, 1864.

GENERAL: Lieutenant Rice, who was in command of the affair last evening at Sikeston, has arrived; he reports that he killed 3 guerrillas instead of 1, as before reported. The man Wright was taken

prisoner; he was a desperate outlaw; he had just shot a horse because it was branded U. S., and had killed a negro but a moment before his capture; the negro was lying there dead. He said he was in command of the party who bushwhacked the soldiers from New Madrid Saturday last, killing and wounding 11; he said he would do so as long as he could raise an arm. He said he tore down the telegraph line—if Rice did not believe it, look in his saddle-bags; a roll of telegraph wire was in them. Wright said they would keep it down. Wright has got his rights. Wright departed this life last night; his death was sudden; he tried to escape but didn't. Our men are after them. I regret to say that 1 prisoner was brought in.

J. B. ROGERS,
Colonel, Commanding.

General EWING.

JUNE 7, 1864.—Raid on New Frankfort, Mo.

Report of Capt. Albert Brackman, Ninth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

MACON, *June* 9, 1864.

A citizen from New Frankfort, Saline County, Mo., brings the news that the place was attacked night before last by 20 bushwhackers. Nearly my whole company was raised in that town; there is not a single disloyal man in it. The bushwhackers committed all sorts of depredations and infamies; killed 1 of my discharged soldiers. My men are anxious to see after their families. Would it not be just to grant them the favor? They can get re-enforcements at Cambridge or Marshall.

I think I can spare a dozen here just now. Lieutenant Patterson has returned. He co-operated with H. T., but it seems they did not agree with one another.

ALBERT BRACKMAN,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Brigadier-General FISK.

JUNE 8, 1864.—Engagement at Simsport, La.*

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Report of Maj. Thomas A. Faries, C. S. Artillery.
No. 2.—Report of Lieut. Maunsel Bennett, Boone's Louisiana Battery.

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Thomas A. Faries, C. S. Artillery.

HDQRS. CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, SECOND INFY. DIV.,
ARMY OF WEST LOUISIANA,
In the Field, June 9, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report an engagement yesterday morning at Simsport, La., between two turreted iron-clads and the tin-clad No.

*The United States vessels engaged were the Chillicothe, Fort Hindman, and Neosho. See report of Lieutenant-Commander Frank M. Ramsay, in Annual Report of Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

13, of the enemy, and the two 30-pounder Parrott rifles, under First Lieut. M. Bennett, commanding Boone's Louisiana Battery. Lieutenant Bennett reports that he opened on the gun-boats at 1 mile distance about 8.30 a. m., the iron-clads firing from 8 and 11 inch guns and 100-pounder Parrott rifles. One of the cannoneers of the left piece was killed by the explosion of a shell, which exploded immediately in front of the gun. One of the 30-pounder Parrott guns recently captured from a gun-boat on Red River burst at the breech at the third discharge, expanding the wrought-iron band or re-enforce and splitting the breech of the gun about 30 inches, slightly wounding 1 man. The detachment from the disabled piece was then moved to the left near the mouth of Bayou De Glaize; the other piece continued to fire until the gun-boats took such positions (in front) above and below as to almost insure its being dismounted by their concentrated and cross-fire from guns of much greater caliber, the piece itself, with most of the carriage, being exposed to view above the levee, which could only afford protection to infantry kneeling, as it was only about 36 to 40 inches in height where the two pieces were in battery. The serviceable piece was run across the river road to allow the wheels to rest in the ditch, some 25 feet in rear of the levee, which caused less of the carriage to be seen from the river.

Lieutenant Bennett, after sending repeatedly to the officer in command of the infantry for support, which, if it had been posted on the right, left, and rear of his pieces, would have prevented what followed, retired his remaining detachment below or to the right of the piece and went himself to the officer commanding the infantry detailed to support him to request such support as would prevent the enemy from landing, and while with this officer it appears the enemy succeeded in dragging the gun and carriage over the levee onto one of the gun-boats. They soon afterward moved up the river and disappeared. It was then discovered that the gun had been taken away with 36 cartridges.

I reached Simsport on the afternoon of the same day and ordered the disabled gun and all the implements and ammunition withdrawn, which was done last night, the battery encamping at Norwood's plantation, on the Bayou De Glaize road. The casualties are 1 man killed, 1 slightly wounded, and 1 missing. Having witnessed in action the conduct of Lieutenant Bennett and all of his men, I am satisfied that he and they stood at their posts as long as cannoneers under such circumstances could remain, and when his serviceable gun was run a few feet to the rear it was not his intention to cease firing, but to prevent the gun from being injured until he could get such support as would enable him to work the gun without the risk of being charged by the enemy when they landed, armed with small-arms, which he saw plainly was their intention; and I have no doubt the enemy was encouraged to make the attempt, seeing his infantry and only support at such a distance from the pieces. I inclose his report, with the details of the affair.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. A. FARIES,
Major and Chief of Artillery.

Maj. J. C. MONCURE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Infantry Division.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Maunsel Bennett, Boone's Louisiana Battery.

HEADQUARTERS BOONE'S BATTERY,
Simsport, La., June 8, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report an engagement this morning between this battery and two of the enemy's turreted iron-clads and the tin-clad gun-boat No. 13. The latter boat, however, remained at the point, over 2 miles above, during the engagement. I opened on the iron-clads at 8.30 a. m., about 1 mile distant, and continued firing until some time after they took a position near the left bank of the Atchafalaya River, about 600 yards distant. We struck them with several shot, one of which passed through the wheel-house, but without seeming to inflict much damage or impede their progress. The infantry support, stationed at first behind the levee within about 50 yards of the upper piece, withdrew at the commencement of the engagement, taking a position behind a point of woods from the boats and in a dry bayou about 300 yards from the battery. One of the 30-pounder Parrott guns recently captured from the enemy's gun-boats burst at the third discharge, slightly wounding 1 man. It seemed to have been caused by the re-enforce not fitting the gun tightly, as the latter opened about one-quarter of an inch without damaging the former. Seeing that the gun was totally disabled, I ordered Sergeant Tanner to move his detachment up to Bayou De Glaize near the infantry. I fired principally solid shot, those that struck hitting obliquely and glancing off. I fired 4 percussion shell, 1 of which exploded on striking a boat. We were replied to by the enemy with 8-inch and 11-inch guns and 100-pounder Parrott guns, firing shot and shell with tolerable accuracy. The smooth-bore guns of the enemy fired shell and shrapnel, which as a general thing burst either in our rear or too far in front to cause us much damage. After firing several rounds from the position they had taken their range became more accurate, some of the shells passing very near, though bursting with no better effect than at first. Seeing that our remaining gun must be dismounted if such an unequal contest was long continued, I ordered it run back 20 to 25 feet, allowing the wheels to rest in a shallow ditch. I at the same time dispatched for the infantry to come to our support, and ordered Sergeant North to move his detachment about 25 or 30 yards below, to a position where they would be less exposed and which I subsequently endeavored to get the infantry to occupy. I remained myself just above the pieces with Sergeant-Major Jones, who I take pleasure in reporting as a gallant and brave soldier.

The gun-boats now commenced approaching the right bank of the river, and as they got near, thinking they would probably try to land, I sent a second dispatch by Sergeant Jones asking for support, which failing to come, and seeing the boats evidently intended to land, I went up to where the infantry were and endeavored to get a support, which might have been sent down by one of the two bayous, both of which ran to the river near where the pieces were posted. Sergeant North seeing their design to land moved his detachment about 200 yards down the river.

About fifteen minutes from the time I went to ask for support I saw about 20 men of the enemy on and over the levee, and being fired upon by the detachment of infantry posted near the mouth of Bayou De Glaize they retired in a few minutes to their boats, but

returning again soon without being observed, except by the detachment of cannoneers below the guns, the men of the enemy fastened a cable or hawser to the piece not damaged and hauled it over the levee by steam.

A detachment of the Crescent Artillery, 8 in number, temporarily assigned to the battery a few days since, were armed with rifles and muskets, but I was not aware of the fact until they reported 6 taken by the enemy from the camping-place between the river and the levee, on the batture. One of the men now missing is reported to have remained at the levee when Sergeant North moved his detachment down the river. This man was, I believe, taken prisoner a few minutes after.

Our loss, which can only be attributable to the fact that we were not supported, is 1 30-pounder Parrott gun with carriage, 36 30-pounder cartridges, and 6 muskets belonging to the detachment of Crescent Artillery. I fired in all 14 solid shot and 4 percussion shell, the effect of which has been reported. Casualties, Private R. Mayeux, killed; Private C. Hetherwick, slightly wounded; Private J. Daly, Crescent Artillery, missing.

Very respectfully,

M. BENNETT,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Boone's Battery.

Maj. T. A. Faries,
Chief of Artillery, Second Infantry Division.

JUNE 8–19, 1864.—Scout on the Osage and in its vicinity.

Report of First Sergt. Carmi B. Vaughan, Company L, Second Colorado Cavalry, commanding scout.

Harrisonville, Mo., *June* 20, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to report my recent scout on the Osage and vicinity, as follows: June 8, I was ordered by Capt. E. W. Kingsbury to take 40 men from Companies I and L, a 6-mule team, and ten days' rations, and scout the Osage River until I was relieved by another scout or ordered in. I marched the same evening and camped on the South Deep Water, 6 miles from Johnstown. My force consisted of a corporal, 17 men, and a citizen guide from Company I; 1 sergeant, 2 corporals, 17 men, and 1 teamster from Company L, making an aggregate of 41 men. June 9, marched to Pleasant Gap, on the head of Camp Branch. Scouted about the town and discovered sign of bushwhackers; found fresh horse tracks where one had struck out from the road into the brush, but were unable to find him. Marched from Pleasant Gap 8 miles south to a ford on the Osage 2 miles east of Papinsville, and secreted the men and horses inside a hedge at the Widow Barrow's place. About 2 p.m. of same day my lookout from the house top reported 6 mounted men coming down the river bottom past Papinsville. I had a few men saddle up, and taking advantage of the ground took them within carbine range of the party before they discovered us. They proved to be bushwhackers, and a running fight ensued to the timber at Papinsville, where 3 of them escaped in the brush, we being unable to follow their trail farther. We killed 2 of the gang and wounded 2 others, 1 of whom must have sunk in a deep slough we ran them through, as his horse left it without him. We captured 1 horse (wounded so as to be unserviceable), $250 in Confederate money, some clothing,

calico, coffee, &c., that they threw away in their flight. Four of their loose horses ran up the river bottom. As soon as possible I sent men on fresh horses after them, who, taking the trail, followed them 8 miles in the direction of Double Branches. They reported that some 12 or 14 bushwhackers came out of the brush near Miami Mission, in rear of the loose horses, and all went on together. Night coming on my scout gave up the chase and returned. We had no means of identifying the men we killed, but suppose them to be a part of Potter's gang who have been plundering in Kansas recently. They were well armed, splendidly mounted, and fought desperately. None of my men or horses were hit, though the bushwhackers fired some 40 shots at us. Our carbines proved worse than useless, nearly all of them missing fire.

June 10, sent 10 men and team back to Johnstown for corn. Took 7 men and crossed the Osage at Papinsville and scouted the Little Osage to Balltown, 15 miles; returned to Barrow's place at night without seeing any bushwhackers. Left Sergeant Hutchins with the balance of the command at Barrow's place to watch the ford and bury the dead bushwhackers. He reports that several mounted men came in sight during the day, and just at night 6 came to where yesterday's fight took place; 2 of them stood picket while the other 4 searched. Sergeant Hutchins had the horses saddled to go after them, but could not get out without being seen, and waited for me to make my appearance from the timber in rear of the bushwhackers. A few minutes after they disappeared around a point of timber we galloped up from the ford to camp. By the time I got to camp it was dusk, and I did not go after the party. June 11, kept secreted inside hedges, rested horses, and kept a sharp lookout for bushwhackers, but did not see any. Team arrived in the evening with corn from Johnstown; saw no bushwhackers on the road. June 12, made a scout across the Osage and down the south side, 8 miles, through the timber with 6 men. Found the green-headed flies so thick that it was impossible to stay there any length of time with our horses. Returning to the ford by a different road, discovered fresh trail of 2 bushwhackers, who had evidently seen us and turned back. Followed them in the brush until near night, when we recrossed the river and returned to camp. At night the sentinels reported seeing men prowling around on foot; had the men under arms a short time to repel an attack, but received none. June 13, took 7 men and made a scout to Balltown, on the Little Osage; arranged signals to work in conjunction with Balltown troops (Third Wisconsin Cavalry). June 14, sent 10 men with team to Balltown for corn; took 15 men and scouted the Marais des Cygnes to the Double Branches, where we struck a fresh trail and followed it through the brush nearly all day; found a recently deserted camp (apparently of 20 or more men) near Stumptown; followed the trail from there to Hog Skin Prairie, where it scattered, and we were unable to follow them farther; returned to camp, having traveled some 30 miles. June 15, sent a small scout across the Osage to look for fresh signs, who reported that they saw none. Messrs. Porter and Debiney came down from Germantown and reported that 60 bushwhackers were at Butler the 12th; it was thought they were locating at the island in the Marais des Cygnes, just above the mouth of the Miami. June 16, sent a scout of 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 8 men to Balltown to arrange with Wisconsin troops to scout the island; they returned at night with a guide to take me

to the foot of the island, where Lieutenant Ellis, of the Third Wisconsin, agreed to meet me with 40 men. June 17, sent 13 men, whose horses were least serviceable, with team to Germantown, with orders to stay there until I came or sent for them; took the remainder, 26 men and 2 citizens (making an aggregate of 29 men), and crossed the Osage at Parks' Mills, a few miles above Papinsville, and took up the west side of the river to the foot of the island, where we arrived about 11 a. m. Lieutenant Ellis sent 5 men to inform me that, owing to a call for men to scout below, he was unable to assist me. After resting the horses I concluded to make the scout alone, and crossed onto the island; found it an ugly place, but scouted one side of it without finding any fresh sign of bushwhackers. Crossed the river into the main Marais des Cygnes timber and scouted up it several miles; then struck across for the Miami in the direction of Butler.

On the Miami we struck a trail and followed it half an hour; came on to a small bushwhacker's camp. One of my men exposed his horse to view before the dismounted men got in range, and 5 of the bushwhackers escaped on their horses. One came riding into the ravine a moment after reading a book, and was fired on, but the greater portion of the carbines missed fire as usual and he escaped, though wounded. The leaves of the book he was reading were sprinkled with blood. We found six coats, a euchre deck dealt out, some flour, meal, cooking utensils, &c., all of which we destroyed or brought away. We pursued the fugitives until near dark, when we found they had scattered out across Hog Skin Prairie. Marched from there to Gilbreth's, on Panther Creek, where we arrived about midnight, having marched over 50 miles since morning. June 18, quartered the men on the settlers for rations and forage, having been without either since the morning of the 17th. Marched to Germantown, 8 miles, and, being unable to procure rations and forage, moved to Johnstown, and quartered the men on the citizens in that vicinity. Privates Thomas Ward and Myron Tuttle, Company L, left for Harrisonville without orders. June 19, marched to Harrisonville without seeing a fresh bushwhacker sign along the route, where we arrived about 5 p. m., having been out of rations three days. During the scout we traveled about 260 miles, broke up two camps of bushwhackers, killed 3 of them, wounded 2, and gave them all a scare they will not soon forget. Except 1 man, who was accidentally wounded at Germantown, I have no casualties to report of either men or horses. The behavior of the men was excellent throughout.

In closing I would respectfully suggest that pack animals would be much better than a wagon for a few days' scout. It takes half of a small command to protect a wagon while the other half are scouting, and then it is not always safe 60 miles from any support. I would also urge that measures be taken to arm us with some reliable carbines. My experience with those we now have is that they are almost sure never to go when they ought to. I am not sure but a part of the fault lies in the ammunition, which is inferior, especially the caps, to that we used to get for the Springfield rifled musket.

With much respect, I remain, your obedient servant,

C. B. VAUGHAN,

First Sergt. Company L, Second Colo. Cav., Comdg. Scout.

Capt. EDWARD D. BOYD,

Commanding Post, Harrisonville.

JUNE 9, 1864.—Affair near Breckinridge, Mo.

Report of Lieut. Col. Andrew J. Swain, Sixty-fifth Missouri Enrolled Militia.

CHILLICOTHE, *June* 9, 1864.

Two of my men have just arrived. My men arrived in the Weldon neighborhood about 1 o'clock this a. m. Five of them went to E. E. Weldon's and 5 to Widow Weldon's, the mother of the escaped prisoner. They crept up close to the house, placed a man on guard, and the balance secreted themselves behind a fence to watch for the expected party. About daylight this morning horsemen were heard coming, and when they were in proper distance were hailed by the guard; the party paid no attention to the challenge but fired on the guard; the guard returned the fire and ran to his comrades. A general engagement then ensued; 2 of my men were slightly wounded, Captain Givens, of the Caldwell County Enrolled Missouri Militia, was killed, and 2 more of the citizens badly wounded.

A. J. SWAIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Capt. GEORGE A. HOLLOWAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Saint Joseph, Mo.

JUNE 9–14, 1864.—Scout from Cassville, Mo., to Cross Hollow, Ark.

Report of Maj. Jeremiah Hackett, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

CASSVILLE, MO., *June* 15, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report: Leaving Cassville on the 9th instant, I proceeded secretly in the direction of Cross Hollow. About 12 miles from Cassville I encamped. Nothing occurred during the march or halt worthy of note. June 10, I continued the march to within 5 miles of Cross Hollow, and encamped. Here 2 bushwhackers were seen by my pickets and fired upon. June 11, continued the march as far as Fitzgerald Mound, where the telegraph was entirely destroyed for more than one-half mile. At Cross Hollow also it was cut in several places, to which place (Cross Hollow) I returned and encamped. June 12, returned as far as Sugar Creek, where the wire was destroyed for more than one-quarter mile, poles dug up and insulators broken up. I encamped here. June 13, I made with the cavalry of my command a scout to the east of the road as far as Packet's Mills, on Prairie Creek. Saw 4 men, well mounted and armed, who on sight of my command scattered and escaped. Crops are looking fine in this vicinity. I returned and intersected the Wire road at Pea Ridge; overtook the infantry at the head of Little Sugar Creek, where I encamped, catching 2 women, Mrs. and Miss Gibson, engaged in an attempt to break the telegraph wire near the forks of the Bentonville road. I brought the women with me, prisoners. I received no reliable information except what has already been communicated.

I have the honor to be, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEREMIAH HACKETT,
Major, Second Arkansas Cavalry.

Lieut. Col. HUGH CAMERON, *Comdg. Post, Cassville.*

JUNE 10, 1864.—Affair near Saint James, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Odon Guitar, Missouri State Militia.

ROLLA, MO., *June* 11, 1864.

MAJOR: About 4 p. m. yesterday Captain Herring and Lieutenant Roberts, Third Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, stationed at Saint James, riding out near their camp, encountered a gang of 25 rebels in the act of crossing the railroad, dressed in Federal uniform. They were fired upon and Captain Herring seriously wounded.* The gang was pursued and scattered. Five came back to Dillon and set fire to two box-cars, and were in the act of firing the tank when scouts returning from here came upon them, drove them off, capturing 3 of their horses, one being a horse captured by them from Lieutenant Roberts. No other damage was done the road as far as I can learn.

O. GUITAR,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 10–15, 1864.—Scout from Sedalia to Renick's Farm, Mo.

Report of Capt. Wilson L. Parker, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

CAMP NEAR SEDALIA, MO., *June* 16, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report to you that I started on the 10th instant on a scout with seven days' rations. I left Sedalia at 12 m. with 42 men; proceeded via Georgetown to Longwood. The first 7 miles rough and rocky; 10 miles good road. Plenty of water and wood; forage scarce. Camped 2 miles north of northeast on Hess Creek; good camping ground. Sent out 12 men and 3 non-commissioned officers with instructions to guard some cross-roads. Distance marched, 17 miles. Morning of the 11th, received orders by courier to proceed to Marshall and investigate the report of bushwhackers being at the Renick farm, 12 miles northwest of Marshall, attack and destroy them if possible. I broke camp at 5.30 a. m., marched north of northwest to Marshall. Road good; plenty of timber and water; forage scarce. Arrived at Marshall at 11 o'clock a. m.; distance marched, 18 miles. Left Marshall at 11 o'clock at night; marched with muffled sabers; arrived at Renick's farm shortly after daylight the 12th. Could not find an enemy or the sign of one. Fed and got breakfast; went to Mr. Ney's (a good Union man, who lives in sight) to learn the facts in the case. He told me there had been none at the Renick farm. Camped near the river in thick brush; marched 18 miles. Sent Lieutenant Brown with a squad of men on foot down the river in the timber to watch the roads and the Pinnacles. At night I sent two non-commissioned officers with 12 men to guard crossings; saw no enemy. Marched 17 miles. 13th, broke camp at 5 a. m.; moved through the timber to the Pinnacles. Sent Lieutenant Brown with 30 men with instructions to divide his men and scour the hills thoroughly. Sergeant Sapp was in command of one squad. He found a trail;

* Died of wound.

followed it to the house of Mrs. Haney; saw 2 men run out of the house at the back door over the fence in the brush, about 100 yards from the house; found in the house a rebel mail and a quantity of merchandise, supposed to have been stolen. Found 2 horses in front of the house 150 yards; at the camp took the mail, horses, goods, and one U. S. mail-bag; arrested Mrs. Haney, two Misses Haney, one Miss Williams, who said they had fed bushwhackers and would again, and gloried in bushwhackers; left Mrs. Haney's; started north; met 2 bushwhackers at a sudden turn in the road; they fired on Sergeant Sapp; he returned the fire; they ran; Sapp gave chase, ran them in the prairie, and then lost them; camped at Mrs. Robinson's, 6 miles from old camp. Sent out at night 20 men on foot in command of Sergeants Patton and Beeks, to guard house and roads; saw 1 bushwhacker, fired at him; can't tell if he was hit or not. 14th, marched to Marshall; plenty of wood, water, and forage; road good. Camped at Marshall all night. Distance marched, 15 miles. 15th, broke camp at 5.30 a. m.; marched for Sedalia; road good, plenty of wood and water; forage scarce. Arrived at Sedalia at 3.30 p. m.; distance marched, 35 miles. Whole distance, 109 miles.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. PARKER,
Capt. Company C, 4th Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. Scout.

Col. GEORGE H. HALL,
Fourth Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. 1st and 2d Sub-Districts.

JUNE 10–23, 1864.—Operations in the District of Central Missouri.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.**

WARRENSBURG, MO., *June* 21, 1864.

We have had several successful affairs with the guerrillas on the borders of Jackson and La Fayette in the past ten days, killing Col. Dick Yeager, who, with others, led the guerrillas when we lost 12 men near Kingsville and 8 men with the train near Lexington.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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WARRENSBURG, MO., *June* 23, 1864.

I have the honor to report a skirmish west of Lexington with about 70 guerrillas—3 killed and 5 wounded. We had 23 men in this affair, and only lost 2 horses. Two skirmishes on the 21st on the line of Jackson County by Captain Burris—nothing. Colonel Ford reports this evening numerous small bands on the border, but no concentration learned of. Balance of the district reported quiet, except a small band on Grand River.

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See also Wyckoff's report of skirmish near Kingsville, Mo., p. 1001.

HEADQUARTERS CENTRAL DISTRICT OF MISSOURI,
Warrensburg, June 30, 1864.

I have the honor to transmit for the information of the major-general commanding a tabular statement of the reports of scouts and skirmishes as a part of the regular tri-monthly supplementary report from the 10th to 19th of June, 1864, being the summary of thirty-two reports, in which there were ten affairs with the enemy, in which they lost in killed and mortally wounded 27 men, 7 horses, and by capture 6 stand of small-arms. Our loss was 23 men killed and wounded, 1 horse and 2 revolvers, 2 wagons burned, and 12 mules killed. The scouts have marched 3,810 miles (a part of which was on foot) in the ten days. I set this down as one of our dark seasons, the guerrillas having ambuscaded one small scouting party and one escort party, by which we lost 21 men, but as they are the only cases that have occurred in several months, and as our troops have successfully surprised the guerrillas in numerous instances, it takes away in a measure the mortification of these two successes on their part.

I regret to say that in one instance the loss was in a great measure due to the negligence of the corporal who was in command, through which the lives of the men intrusted to his charge have been wantonly sacrificed. The escort and guard duty is very large, as forage has to be hauled from 35 to 50 miles for one-half of the command and in consequence of the number of depots for stores and prisoners.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

Consolidated report of scouts, skirmishes, and marches in the District of Central Missouri, from the 10th day of June to the 20th day of June, 1864, inclusive.

Date.	Commanding officer.	Station and scouting direction.	Enemy's losses.				
			Killed.	Wounded.	Horses killed and wounded.	Arms captured.	Accouterments captured.
June 10	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church, W. N.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12	J. H. Henry, sergeant, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, NW. S. SE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12	F. A. Spencer, first lieutenant, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, SW. SE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13	Alfred Walters, captain, Company F, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	New California.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13	E. D. Boyd, captain, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
13	S. M. Williams, lieutenant and assistant provost-marshal.	Clinton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14	John Wyckoff, captain Company D, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Holden, W. SE.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....

Consolidated report of scouts, skirmishes, and marches, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Commanding officer.	Station and scouting direction.	Enemy's losses.				
			Killed.	Wounded.	Horses killed and wounded.	Arms captured.	Accouterments captured.
June 14	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	S. M. Williams, lieutenant and assistant provost-marshal.	Clinton	.....	.. ...	.....	.....	... .
15	E. D. Boyd, captain, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, E. W. S.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15	H. F. Peery, captain Company K, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Germantown, E. S. W. N.	.....	.....	... .	.....	.....
16	J. T. Kerr, lieutenant, Company A, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, NE. E. N. W. E.	.... .	.....	.....	.....	.. ..
16	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
16	W. L. Parker, captain Company C, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, NE. N. NW ...	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
16	J. Peak, captain Company A, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, SW. E. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
16	R. G. Houston, lieutenant, Company L, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Wingfield Mill, NE. SW.	... .	.....	.....	.....	.....
17	G. W. Calvin, lieutenant, Company I, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, W. NW. S. NE.	1	.....	.....	*a*1	.....
17	R. L. Ferguson, captain Company B, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, SW. N. SE. N.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18	A. Walters, captain Company F, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, E. SE. N	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18	J. M. Turley, captain Company D, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, E. S. SW. E. N. SE. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	J. W. Barkley, sergeant, Company E, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	La Fayette County, E. NW. S.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	W. Kessinger, lieutenant, Company G, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Lexington, W. S	3	5	.....	.....	.....
20	W. Meredith, captain Company H, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	La Fayette County, S. NW. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.. ....	.....
20	J. McFerran, colonel, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....
20	H. J. Coy, sergeant, Company E, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Kansas City, E. S. SE. E. NW.	2	6	4	*b*5	.....
20	H. F. Peery, captain Company K, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Germantown, SE. W. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	R. G. Houston, lieutenant, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, S. SE. NW ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	G. P. Chiles, second lieutenant Company A, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, S. N ...	.. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	John Wyckoff, captain Company D, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Holden, S. SW. N. NE .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	J. M. Turley, captain Company D, Seventh Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, W. S. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
20	C. B. Vaughan, first sergeant Company L, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, SW. S. SW. E. NE.	2	2	1	.....	.....
	Total	....	11	16	7	*c*6	.....

a Revolver. *b* Four revolvers and 1 carbine. *c* Five revolvers and 1 carbine.

Consolidated report of scouts, skirmishes, and marches, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Commanding officer.	Station and scouting direction.	Our losses.					Number of miles traveled.
			Killed.	Wounded.	Horses lost, killed and wounded.	Arms lost.	Accouterments lost.	
June 10	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church, W. N.	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	(a)
12	J. H. Henry, sergeant, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, NW. S. SE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88
12	F. A. Spencer, first lieutenant Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, SW. SE.	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	70
13	Alfred Walters, captain Company F, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	New California	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
13	E. D. Boyd, captain, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
13	S. M. Williams, lieutenant and assistant provost-marshal.	Clinton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
14	John Wyckoff, captain Company D, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Holden, W. SE.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
14	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
15	S. M. Williams, lieutenant and assistant provost-marshal.	Clinton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
15	E. D. Boyd, captain, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, E. W. S.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)
15	H. F. Peery, captain Company K, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Germantown, E. S. W. N.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	360
16	J. T. Kerr, lieutenant, Company A, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, NE. E. N. W. E.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	135
16	Henry Neill, major, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Mound Prairie Church.	8	1	(b)	.....	.....	210
16	W. L. Parker, captain Company C, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, NE. N. NW ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	109
16	J. Peak, captain Company A, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, SW. E. NW.	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	35
16	R. G. Houston, lieutenant, Company L, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Wingfield Mill, NE. SW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64
17	G. W. Calvin, lieutenant, Company I, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, W. NW. S. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
17	R. L. Ferguson, captain Company B, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, SW. N. SE. N.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90
18	A. Walters, captain Company F, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, E. SE. N.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	168
18	J. M. Turley, captain Company D, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, E. S. SW. E. N. SE. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94
20	J. W. Barkley, sergeant, Company E, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	La Fayette County, E. NW. S.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70
20	W. Kessinger, lieutenant, Company G, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Lexington, W. S	.....	.....	1	c2	.....	96
20	W. Meredith, captain Company H, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	La Fayette County, S. NW. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
20	J. McFerran, colonel, commanding First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(a)

a Not reported.
b Two wagons burned and 12 mules shot by the guerrillas.
c Two revolvers.

Consolidated report of scouts, skirmishes, and marches, &c.—Continued.

Date.	Commanding officer.	Station and scouting direction.	Our losses.					Number of miles traveled.
			Killed.	Wounded.	Horses lost, killed and wounded.	Arms lost.	Accouterments lost.	
June 20	H. J. Coy, sergeant, Company E, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Kansas City, E. S. SE. E. NW.	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	85
20	H. F. Peery, captain Company K, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Germantown, SE. W. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	130
20	R. G. Houston, lieutenant, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Sedalia, S. SE. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	244
20	G. P. Chiles, second lieutenant Company A, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, S. N.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
20	John Wyckoff, captain Company D, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.	Holden, S. SW. N. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	378
20	J. M. Turley, captain Company D, Seventh Missouri State Militia.	Warrensburg, W. S. NW.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
20	C. B. Vaughan, first sergeant Company L, Second Colorado Cavalry.	Harrisonville, SW. S. SW. E. NE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
	Total		20	3	1	*c*2	.....	2,894

	Miles.
Reported distance traveled	2,894
Not reported, distance estimated	916
Total	3,810

E. B. BROWN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

JUNE 11, 1864.—Skirmish at Ridgeley, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. William J. Fitzgerald, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *June* 12, 1864.

A detachment of militia were attacked by a band of guerrillas yesterday at Ridgeley, in Platte County, and a desperate little fight ensued. Captain Hoberson [Overson], late of the rebel army, now recruiting under Col. Calhoun Thornton, C. S. Army, and leader of the gang, was killed outright, and his lieutenant, William Felland [Oldham], son of a planter in this county, was wounded and taken prisoner. He was shot to-day. His confession will be valuable to us in

securing scores of the black-hearted villains in the country. We captured several fine horses and revolvers. We lost 1 brave boy; only 2 others were slightly wounded. The brigands were the same party that committed the murders at Arnoldsville. Eleven of them were on the muster-rolls of a militia company in this county, and they carried a Federal musket all winter. I am pushing after the villains day and night, and my limited force of reliable troops are nearly worn out. I can get help from General Curtis, who has kindly tendered it to-day, but I dislike to have the Kansas troops come over here if it can possibly be avoided. I shall go to Platte County again to-morrow if able to ride. We captured 2 more of our escaped prisoners to-day, McConly and Briggs; the latter was killed.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. William J. Fitzgerald, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry.

RIDGELEY, MO., *June* 12, 1864—7 a. m.

DEAR SIR: We were attacked here yesterday by bushwhackers, about 20 in number, at about 11 o'clock, under the command of Captain Overson and Lieutenant Oldham. Overson is from Kansas formerly. We killed Overson and wounded Oldham. We will shoot him in one hour from this time. I captured some papers of importance and Major Curtis' hat. They killed 1 of our men and wounded 4. We drove them off; captured 3 horses, 3 revolvers, and $110 in Confederate money. They murdered Thomas H. Bailey, of my company, who was furloughed, the same day that I left the fort, about 5 miles from Weston. We are in a bad fix here. Can't get away without assistance. We have no ammunition, and can't get it. Send men to relieve us, if possible. I can't go away; we are preparing to defend ourselves the best we can. I could [not] get any one to carry you a dispatch yesterday.

WM. J. FITZGERALD,
Captain Company E, Sixteenth Kansas Vol. Cav.

Major-General CURTIS.

JUNE 12, 1864.—Affair at Montevallo, Mo.

Report of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT SCOTT, *June* 13, 1864.

A party of my command, under Lieut. C. B. Willsey, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, ran into 30 bushwhackers yesterday morning at Montevallo, Mo., 35 miles east of here, and scattered them into the brush, killed 1 man, and captured several horses. A party of 150 rebels went through Montevallo last Wednesday, going north, on the old Boonville road, the usual route. Train just in from Fort Smith with about 1,000 refugees. No special news.

C. W. BLAIR.

Brigadier-General MCKEAN.

JUNE 12, 1864.—Raid on Calhoun, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Egbert B. Brown, U. S. Army, commanding District of Central Missouri.

WARRENSBURG, MO., *June* 15, 1864.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the evening of the 12th instant a party of 20 guerrillas made a dash into Calhoun, burnt one church, one tavern, two dwelling-houses, and robbed two stores. The leader, Dr. Beck, a notorious character, was killed by Lieutenant Sallee, of the citizens guard; 3 of the guards were wounded.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

E. B. BROWN.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Saint Louis, Mo.

JUNE 12, 1864.—Skirmish near Kingsville, Mo.

Report of Capt. John Wyckoff, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FIRST CAV., MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Holden, Mo., June 14, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders I would submit the following report: You will observe by my report of June 9, 1864, that Sergeant George, Company M, who was at that time on a scout to Kingsville and south and southwest of Kingsville, has returned to camp, having marched about 30 miles; made no discoveries. June 10, 1864, Sergeant Millirons and 20 men of Company D, on scout and foraging expedition to Kingsville and west of that place, returned to camp on same day, having marched about 20 miles. Sergeant Key and 10 men of Company D at Kingsville, remained all night and returned to camp on the morning of June 11, 1864. Sergeant Triplett and Corporal Parman's scout will be given in detail.

On the morning of June 11, 1864, in obedience to orders, I ordered Captain Eads, Company M, to detail from his command 1 non-commissioned officer and 14 privates of his company for a scout north of Kingsville, who marched at 9 a. m. of said day under the following order:

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Holden, Mo., June 11, 1864.

Corporal Parman and 14 men of Company M will proceed to scout the country north of Kingsville and along Crawford Fork, and return to camp at 12 m. of the 12th of June, 1864. Provide your men with one day's rations.

By order:

JOHN WYCKOFF,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

The following is the report of Corporal Parman:

HDQRS. CO. M, FIRST CAV., MO. STATE MILITIA,
Holden, Mo., June 14, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report to you, in pursuance of your request, movements of the men belonging to Company M, which I had on the scout under my command on the 11th and 12th instant: I moved with my command from camp on Saturday, the 11th instant, at 9 a. m., and proceeded west on the north side of the railroad,

traveling some 15 miles; thence turned in a southeast direction, and marched to a point near the railroad some 3 miles west of Kingsville. Most of the distance marched on this day was in the brush, and saw but little sign of bushwhackers, finding only one trail, which I followed some distance until we lost it by the parties separating. We camped for a part of the night near a Mrs. Longacre's, about one-half mile north of the railroad. On the morning of the 12th instant I moved with my men in a northeast direction from where I had camped, and had proceeded but a short distance when I discovered a large body of cavalry in my rear some 50 or 75 yards, and on the discovery of the enemy I formed my men in line and challenged the advancing party, who only increased their speed, and at this instant I ordered my men to fire on the enemy, which was done in a very few seconds. By this time my little detachment was entirely surrounded—only a small space toward the brush. By this time the bullets from the enemy's lines were falling like hail among us, and several of my men were killed. I remained in front of my line until the enemy had passed me, even some of them between me and my own lines, at which time I moved with all possible speed to the left, engaged one of the enemy, firing at him twice, when he turned, and, as I was in a helpless condition, my men nearly all killed, I made for camp with all speed possible. I feel satisfied that the enemy had been informed of my position and strength, as he had me flanked on the right and left before he showed himself in my rear. The attacking party was not less than 40 strong, and from the best information I have I think the whole command of the enemy did not fall short of 80 men, and probably 100. The enemy were all dressed in full Federal uniform and had the regular badges worn by our men on their hats and caps; small part of them were wearing Federal overcoats.

I learn that the party was commanded by Colonel Yeager, of the rebel army, assisted by Bill Anderson, who is a captain of a guerrilla band. Yeager informed the citizens that he asked no quarter and would give none. I lost in this unfortunate affair 12 of my command, only 2 escaping. The men, after being killed, were stripped of all their outer clothing and everything valuable was taken from their persons, and the enemy scalped 1 man after they had killed and stripped him. The enemy marched from the north during the night, returning toward the Sni Hills after the engagement.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH V. PARMAN,
Corporal, Company M, First Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Capt. John Wyckoff,
Company D, First Cav., M. S. M., Comdg. Station, Holden, Mo.

Aside from the report of Corporal Parman, I have followed and crossed the trail of the party at a number of points between where the slaughter occurred and the Sni Hills sufficient to enable me to know that it came from the north and returned to the north as soon as it had done its work of crime. The point of attack is about 8 miles from this camp. On the arrival of Corporal Parman at Kingsville, at which point I had 11 of my company under Sergeant Triplett, Captain Duncan mounted his horse and came to this place immediately. We were engaged at inspection of arms when we received the intelligence. I immediately ordered my company to saddle and mount; in twenty minutes had 50 of my company in the saddle and on the march. Captain Eads had marched on receipt of the news with 20 of Company M, who were mounted for a two days' scout at the time of the arrival of Captain Duncan. I came up with Captain Eads at Kingsville, where I found Sergeant Triplett and his squad mounted and in line. He informed me that the enemy came in sight of Kingsville in such force, and the information received from Corporal Parman was such as to make him think best to keep possession of the buildings at that place until he could get assistance from this place. He joined me and we moved to the place of the massacre, where I found the men that had been killed strewn along for about one-half mile, 5 dead on the ground where they formed their line, the others near the brush and in the brush in front of them, where I am informed they were met by another party that

was in ambush and cut them off from the brush. My opinion is, from the fact of the men being shot in the eyes, that about 4 of the men surrendered and were afterward shot and stripped of everything valuable and Corporal Ireland scalped.

I immediately ordered a sufficient number of carts from section 114 of Pacific Railroad Company to convey the dead to camp, which was the best and only conveyance to be had in a reasonable time. They were promptly furnished, the dead gathered and sent to Holden, under Lieutenant Cobb, with orders to give them the best burial in his power, which was done. The dead being gathered, and my scouts called in which I had out to ascertain the course the enemy had taken, in which they had been unsuccessful, I started with 58 enlisted men of my company and 18 of Company M, Captain Eads and Lieutenant Triplett, in a southern course about 2 miles; came on a trail of about 80 or 100 men bearing southwest, which I followed about 2 miles and ascertained it to be the trail in which they had come in. I then turned north and bore around to the east about 5 miles, where we struck the trail going in the direction of Chapel Hill, which soon became [fainter] as when going down, and soon began to scatter and bear west. The trail we followed struck into the Sni Hills, about 3 miles west of the Widow Hill's, where Lewis Spainhowers has lived since early spring. Here we had a short skirmish with them, in which 1 of them was severely if not mortally wounded, instantly falling from his horse. They fired rapidly from the brush. I instantly dismounted 40 men, and deployed them as skirmishers and searched the brush, but they were gone; they had moved in a direction a little north of Lone Jack. It was now night, but as the men were good we marched on, having been joined by about 40 of the Colorado troops, with whom my pickets had a skirmish; but hearing of their fire, and having a knowledge of their being in the country, and getting in a position where I could see their commander, gave the signal and soon had things all right; no damage done to either party. We remained together until the moon set. Being within 3 miles of Pleasant Hill we marched there and remained there until morning, my men having had nothing to eat since the morning before, but were treated very kindly by the soldiers and officers at that place and furnished with breakfast and forage. June 13, breakfast over, I marched from Pleasant Hill north of east, crossing a number of small streams, the most of the way through brush and woods, very thick, 5 miles south of Lone Jack. Started some guerrillas from an old house in the brush; did not get closer than 400 yards; did not see but 2, though there were more in the party; they ran east. We continued in an easterly direction until we arrived north of the point where the men had been killed on the previous day, turned south, examined the ground and brush with care, and am prepared to give my opinion of the affair at any proper time. Having no rations with us, and none at camp, we returned at 4 p. m. of the 13th of June. At near 11 o'clock received a dispatch from you to send out a scout; at 12 o'clock 25 of Company D and 25 of Company M left this camp under Lieutenants Cobb and Triplett; they are still out.

All of which is respectfully submitted to you.

JOHN WYCKOFF,
Captain, Commanding Detachment.

Col. JAMES MCFERRAN.

JUNE 13–16, 1864.—Scout from Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to Weston, Mo.

Report of Maj. Robert H. Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS., *June* 16, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 42, dated headquarters District of North Kansas, June 13, 1864, I have the honor to state that, as directed, I proceeded to Platte County, via Leavenworth City. When near Farley, distant 7 miles from Leavenworth, I was informed that the guerrillas had started toward Platte City, in which direction I went. I had proceeded only about half a mile when I was informed by a resident that some 8 men, supposed to be bushwhackers, had returned to Farley. I immediately countermarched and directed the advance under Lieutenant Gunther, of the Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, to double-quick into town and charge upon the party alluded to. At the same time a party under command of Mr. Losee, of Leavenworth City, charged into town from the east, thereby cutting off retreat; but to the disappointment of the command the supposed enemy turned out to be imaginary friends, they being a party of militia from Platte City. While at Farley I learned that the guerrillas and the town militia fought desperately, the citizens having saved their lives and property by the aid of "rifle whisky."

Believing the place impregnable, we directed our course toward Platte City, keeping the main road for a few miles, when we took to the brush, hoping to find the trail. Here Mr. Losee, taking 4 men as a guard and with the militia, started for Platte City. Our energetic David Causort, the scout, soon found where the enemy had passed. We followed as speedily as possible, and soon crossed the Platte, where we had to swim. We trailed them some miles farther, but night coming on we lost all trace of them. We went into Platte City, hoping to receive some tangible information, but were disappointed. We concluded to put up for the night, and, to the credit of Major Clark, who is in command of the county, and the citizens, we were provided with a good supper. The major seems to be a very clever officer, and acknowledges that a change of policy is necessary in order to suppress bushwhacking. Some of the citizens seemed to be very glad to see us over there, although there were some remarks made about the Kansas radicals (for which the major apologized), which exasperated some of the men. In the morning early we started toward a little town called Smithville, a distance of 14 miles from Platte City, where we took breakfast; had some horseshoeing done; talked with the people; glad to see us. They are all Union people, every one. Major Clark accompanied us to the place, from which, I believe, he returned. We proceeded to Ridgeley, some 6 miles, were we learned Captain Fitzgerald was guerrilla-bound. We found the captain and the citizens under arms; glad to see us. There are some true Union men there. Lieutenant Pierce and 16 men of Captain Poe's company opportunely arrived there about an hour and a half before the guerrillas. Captain Overson and Lieutenant Feelan [Oldham] made the raid, they not knowing of the aforesaid arrival. Some of the men fought well, but 7 of them ran away, 3 of whom did not return.

Soon after our arrival there I was informed that some troops were approaching. Our command was disposed of in such manner that in the event they were rebels we could take them in, but to our dis-

appointment they were 18 good soldiers, commanded by a good sergeant of the Ninth Missouri. We remained in town until dark, believing that the guerrillas were between the Goose Neck country and Weston. We started, taking a circuitous route of some 8 miles to gain 2, so that the inhabitants should not know where we were going. We marched altogether through the brush, principally in single file. We crossed the Platte River and halted, throwing out pickets, hoping to entrap somebody. At 2 o'clock in the morning we started to the point were we learned the rebels were encamped. Captain Fitzgerald, Sixteenth Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, conducted us through the most intricate paths, avoiding roads. At every cross-road we found the most unmistakable signs of their sentinels, who fled at our approach. Seven miles from Weston, at the house of a man named Fulton, our advance espied a mounted guerrilla, but he got away. We saw the old man, who denied having any knowledge of bushwhackers. He was ordered to proceed with us in order to show us the camp but he stubbornly refused, whereupon he was handled pretty roughly. At the moment a daughter of Fulton made her appearance, and aimed a revolver at Sergeant Gill and David Causort, our scout; the latter, however, disarmed the fair damsel; he also took from her a bowie-knife and flask of powder, all of which said scout has in his possession as a love token. We searched the premises for arms and ammunition, but found none; however, from the conduct of the woman, I have reason to believe that arms are concealed there. We took the old man, the commanding officer promising the family to save his life, and scouted around the country until we concluded the rebels had scattered, knowing our presence.

When within 5 miles of Weston we stopped and took breakfast. The Saint Joseph troops, who accompanied us to this point, returned. The aforesaid old man was taken out by some of the men and hung a little (he requested that his body should be returned to his wife), but the boys knowing the promise of the commanding officer let him go, where he is now doubtless feeding his friends. The whole family are plucky, and the guerrillas find them valuable auxiliaries.

After breakfast we went out into the Weston road at the blacksmith's shop, where Private Bailey was taken by 3 or 4 guerrillas and killed. This occurred one day last week. We searched for his body, but could not find it. When we came to the shop the smith, Thomas Newnham, was absent, but we sent for him. In the interim we conversed with his amiable wife, who said her husband had done no work for several weeks, adding that he had no coal. We went into the shop and found fire on the forge and that work had been done there only a few hours before, which led us to believe that Mrs. Blacksmith departed from the truth. The husband arrived, but he knew nothing of the murder of Bailey; did not know that he shod the horses of bushwhackers. He remembered the circumstance of the shoeing of horses and of having seen Private Bailey passing. We then returned to Weston, where we were treated to lager by our true friends, the Dutch, and from thence home. We saw but one rebel family in the whole country, according to them; so what was to be done? We are, however, of the opinion that there are about 300 organized guerrillas in the counties of Platte, Clay, and Buchanan, under the command of Colonel Thornton, brother-in-law to Colonel Doniphan, of Weston, Mo.

We are of the opinion that Weston was to be sacked and all the Germans killed. We glean these facts from evidence already in your possession, and we have no doubt that our trip in Platte and Clay Counties prevented the threatened calamity for the present. There was 1 small black horse found in the road, and we turned him over to Major Clark in Platte City. No other property was taken. The men and officers behaved well, and returned very much disappointed in not having a brush with the guerrillas.

I have the honor sir, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. HUNT,
Major, Fifteenth Kansas Vol. Cav., Comdg. Expedition.

Brigadier-General DAVIES,
Commanding District of North Kansas.

JUNE 14, 1864.—Raid on Melville, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army.
No. 2.—Capt. Calvin S. Moore, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *June* 14, 1864.

Melville, in Dade County, was entered this morning by a force of the enemy, estimated at 400, and mostly burned. The enemy came from the northwest and moved off in the same direction. Our troops are following them. I respectfully request permission to come to Saint Louis for a conference with the general commanding as soon as the condition here will allow me to leave.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Calvin S. Moore, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Greenfield, Mo., June 14, 1864.

GENERAL: Melville was attacked this morning about sunrise by about 75 bushwhackers; they succeeded in burning the town and killing several men, mostly citizens. I think there were only a few militia there and I think they were completely surprised. Major Morgan, with most of the men there, was on a scout in the Horse Creek country. The rebels came in from a northwest direction; were commanded by Pete Roberts. The rebels left there about 8

o'clock; it was 2 o'clock before I got information of the direction they went. I then immediately sent Lieutenant Clevenger in pursuit of them with 50 men. The rebels went in a northwest direction toward White Hare or Sons Point; burned several houses on Sac River as they went. I have some hopes that Lieutenant Clevenger will overtake them; if he does I expect to hear a good account of him.

Captain Higgenbotham's company has just moved in here from Pennsylvania Prairie. The captain, with 20 of his men, have gone after them. I will call in the citizens to-night; enough men here to defend this place. I think the commanding officer at Melville is to blame for not informing me sooner than he did of the affair, and direction the bushwhackers went.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. MOORE,
Captain, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. S. SANBORN,
Comdg. Dist. S. W. Mo., Springfield, Mo.

P. S.—Major King, inspector, arrived here last evening. He will probably remain until the 16th instant.

C. S. M.

JUNE 14, 1864.—Skirmish near Lexington, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. Milton Burris, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. James McFerran, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. FIRST CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA,
Warrensburg, Mo., June 19, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that a detachment of Companies F and I, of my regiment, numbering 35 men, on the 13th of June, 1864, were ordered to Lexington, Mo., for rations. While returning on the 14th of June, 1864, 12 miles from Lexington, were attacked by 100 guerrillas, and after a hard fight lost 8 men killed of the detachment and 2 wounded, of which the following is a list.*

The guerrillas fought with valor, discipline, and skill. The detachment fought with equal valor, discipline, and judgment, and repulsed the enemy in three different charges, but finally, being attacked on both flanks and in rear, they were compelled to retreat before the superior force of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES McFERRAN,
Colonel, Commanding the Regiment.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.

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* Nominal list omitted.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Milton Burris, First Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. DETACH. FIRST CAV., MISSOURI STATE MIL.,
In the Field, La Fayette County, Mo., June 14, 1864.

SIR: It becomes my painful duty to inform you of a terrible disaster amongst the troops under my command. I sent yesterday to Lexington for rations for Companies F and I, with escort of 30 men, under command of Sergeant Shackelford, Company I, and on their return to-day they were attacked at William Whitsit's by about 100 guerrillas. Sergeant Shackelford dismounted his men and drove them back, and then attempted to move his train, when the guerrillas made a charge and nearly surrounded Shackelford, and cut him off from the brush, and his only chance was retreat. He lost 8 men killed and one mortally wounded, also lost all the rations, 2 wagons, 15 mules. The mules were killed. He lost several horses, the exact number not yet known. From what I can learn Shackelford had his men in good order and was using great caution. I have not been able to learn who was in command of the guerrillas. I am left with only one team and am out of rations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MILTON BURRIS,
Captain Co. I, First Cavalry, Mo. State Militia, Comdg.

Col. JAMES MCFERRAN,
Comdg. First Cav., Mo. S. Mil., Warrensburg, Mo.

JUNE 14–16, 1864.—Scouts from Pleasant Hill, Mo.

Reports of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

PLEASANT HILL, MO., *June* 15, 1864.

Left here yesterday at daylight. Sent Captain Moses with 50 men, mounted, north, along the line of La Fayette County, to co-operate with Major Neill. I took 100 men and moved north [to] Snibar; thence west through Sni Hills and Blue brush, avoiding all roads, to Raytown. About midway between Independence and Hickman's Mills found Major Pritchard there with 120 men. This morning sent Captain Kingsbury with 70 men direct through Sni Hills and Blue and Oak Hollow, with directions to follow down line of La Fayette about 6 miles below Lone Jack and then come in here. Instructed Major Pritchard to scout from Kansas line to Blue Mills; also sent scouts up Little Blue to head of Grand and down Grand till opposite here, and then come in. We gave them a busy stirring up and broke up several camps from 10 to 30 each. Foot scouts had skirmish this morning about daylight. They got several, sure. No concentration of guerrillas in my sub-district, but many bands of from 10 to 50. If I had five companies more, so as to keep more men out on foot, I could beat them bad at their own game. All Pleasant Hill troops will be in to-morrow. Shall I order Major Pritchard and command back to their stations?

J. H. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. J. H. STEGER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Central Missouri.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND COLORADO CAVALRY,
Kansas City, Mo., July 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make to the general commanding the following report of a scout made by me on the 15th and 16th of June, 1864:

June 15.—Started with all the well-mounted men of Companies D, I, K, and M (about 150 in all), from Pleasant Hill, about 4 a. m. Detached Captain Moses, with his company (M), to the right, with orders to scout toward the La Fayette County line. Reached Snibar Station about 10 a. m. After resting the men and horses half an hour, took a westerly course toward Raytown, through very heavy brush and over rocky hills and ravines. Found a very few fresh signs, but saw no guerrillas until within 4 miles of Raytown. A small party detached to the right gave chase to 2 bushwhackers, but failed to overtake them. Reached Raytown about 5 p. m. After dark I sent out a foot scout of 25 men, under a sergeant. He came in about 6 a. m., 16th instant, and reported having fired into a party of 6 or 8, killing, as he thinks, 3 of them. This was just at daylight. Soon after they discovered a party of 15 at a house, but as they were crawling up toward the house a railroad employé saw them and gave notice to the guerrillas, who immediately left; this was near the crossing by the railroad of the Little Blue. The distance traveled by them, 15 miles. I also sent out another foot scout of 20 men, in a different direction, who ran into a party of 10 or 12 guerrillas; fired into and wounded 1 or 2 of them. They traveled 10 miles.

June 16.—Started for Pleasant Hill about 6.30 a. m., having first sent Captain Kingsbury, with Companies D and I, to scout the country toward and through Burr Oak Hollow. Reached Pleasant Hill, without seeing any guerrillas, about 2 p. m. Captain Kingsbury came in about 9 p. m., and reported no guerrillas where he had been. The distance traveled by him, after leaving the main command, 40 miles. Captain Moses, with his company, reached Pleasant Hill the next morning, having scouted through the eastern edge of Jackson County, reaching Independence on the night of the 16th without seeing any bushwhackers. He traveled about 90 miles. Distance traveled by the main command, 70 miles.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JUNE 15, 1864.—Skirmish near White Hare, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. Calvin S. Moore, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John B. Sanborn, U. S. Army, commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD, MO., *June* 17, 1864.

MAJOR: Major Mitchell, Seventh Provisional Regiment, with a portion of Company E, Sixth Missouri State Militia, and a portion

of his own command, came upon the force that burned Melville, near White Hare, on the 15th instant, and immediately made a charge upon it and killed 6 of the enemy dead on the spot, wounded a large number, and captured 11 horses and scattered the force in all directions. This force was made up of Pete Roberts' and Hinch West's bands, numbering only about 80 men, and not 400, as was at first estimated and reported. Our troops are still destroying them.

JOHN B. SANBORN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Calvin S. Moore, Sixth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Greenfield, Mo., June 16, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the command that left here on the 14th instant in pursuit of the bushwhackers that burned Melville, Mo., on the 14th instant, formed a junction with a portion of Enrolled Missouri Militia and citizens from Melville and vicinity about 4 o'clock on the same day they left here. Struck the trail of the rebels at 4 o'clock, and followed it until dark, when the rebels scattered. The command then went 15 miles in the direction of Lamar, to try to strike the trail of rebels. Camped on Horse Creek about midnight. Started in pursuit again on the morning of the 15th and came on the rebels in camp about 12 o'clock, 15th. The rebels were selling off at auction to one another the goods they had stolen at Melville before they burned the town. They were taken somewhat by surprise. Our men immediately charged them and routed them, killing 7 rebels and wounding a number more, and capturing almost all the goods they had stolen, together without about 15 horses. Our troops all did well. The rebels scattered. Our men were too much fatigued to pursue them.

A large portion of the captured property was turned over on the spot to the citizens at Melville that claimed them. A portion of it is in the hands of the Enrolled Missouri Militia that participated in the fight. A portion of it my men brought off, consisting of dry goods, &c., which I have taken possession of and will turn over to legal owners upon their identifying the same. Our loss was none killed, 1 or 2 Enrolled Missouri Militia slightly wounded.

C. S. MOORE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

JUNE 17, 1864.

On yesterday I sent Lieutenant Murphy with 40 men to the Horse Creek country, to try to ascertain, if he could, whether the rebels were still in the country. He returned this morning, stating that he thinks they have left the country.

C. S. MOORE,
Captain Company E, Sixth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Springfield, Mo.

JUNE 15, 1864.—Union evacuation of Pass Cavallo, Tex.

Report of Col. George W. K. Bailey, Ninety-ninth Illinois Infantry, commanding brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., 13TH ARMY CORPS,
Kennersville, La., June 22, 1864.

MAJOR: Being left in command of the U. S. forces at Pass Cavallo, Tex., by order of Brig. Gen. B. S. Roberts, I have the honor of making the following report to you of the evacuation of that place: After having shipped most of the valuable lumber, by request of Major-General Herron, to Brazos, and a condensing apparatus, I made a final evacuation on the 15th day of June, A. D. 1864, bringing away all valuables, together with the heavy guns captured on Fort Esperanza. I burnt everything combustible, except the private dwelling of Colonel Forrester, and blew up the forts.

I am, major, with much respect, your obedient servant,
GEO. W. K. BAILEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

Maj. GEORGE B. DRAKE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of the Gulf.

JUNE 15-16, 1864.—Capture of the steamer J. R. Williams, Arkansas River, and skirmish at San Bois Creek, Ind. Ter.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army, commanding Indian Division.
No. 2.—Col. Stand Watie, commanding First Indian Brigade.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, C. S. Army, commanding Indian Division.

HEADQUARTERS INDIAN DIVISION,
Limestone Prairie, June 17, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the pleasure to announce the capture of a steamboat, loaded with commissary stores principally, at Pheasant Bluff, on the 15th instant, by Col. Stand Watie. A few prisoners were taken, others escaping to the north side of the river. All transportation, except a bare sufficiency to move the troops, having been sent back to Boggy Depot for supplies, the creeks being up and the roads almost impassable, I am unable at present to send a train to the boat, but have sent the Chickasaw regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Reynolds, to re-enforce Colonel Watie. Have also ordered McCurtain to send a heavy scout toward Fort Smith to attract notice, and shall send Colonel Walker forward toward Scullyville to intercept any cavalry who may attempt to go up to the bluff by the south side of the river. I have also sent Captain Desmukes and John Melvin,

both experienced Arkansas River steam-boat men, to run the boat up Canadian as far as the water will allow. It will be destroyed only upon urgent necessity arising.

Respectfully,

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. T. M. Scott,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dist. of Ind. Ter., Fort Towson.

N. B.—The boat was fired into by the light howitzer battery under Lieutenant Forrester, killing 2 men and wounding several. The shot passed through the chimney and upper works of the boat; did not injure the hull. She surrendered and came over to the south side.

No. 2.

Reports of Col. Stand Watie, commanding First Indian Brigade.

Pheasant Bluff, *June* 17, 1864.

I send by Lieutenant Forrester, of Lee's light battery, 6 men, prisoners. They were taken on board the steam-boat Williams, captured on the 15th, of which you was apprised by a dispatch sent by A. Worford. The boat, after she was fired on, run onto the other shore. The men escaped into the woods on the other side; 2 were killed on board and 2 after they had left the boat. With the boat was captured 150 barrels of flour, 16,000 pounds of bacon, and considerable quantity of store goods, which was very acceptable to the boys, but has turned out to be [a] disadvantage to the command, as greater portions of the Creeks and Seminoles immediately broke off to carry their booty home. I am left here with only a few men. The enemy is now on the opposite side of the river. Commenced firing on us about 12 yesterday. We have only a portion of flour and bacon brought up on the bluff. The river rose great deal last night and washed off several barrels of flour. If I can get wagons I would move the flour and bacon to Kribbs', otherwise I shall be compelled to leave it. The roads are in a wretched condition. The scout under Major Gillett has not yet returned. Colonel Adair is still on the other side of Canadian; not fordable. Lieutenant Forrester will give particulars. The negro woman I send is to be retained. I would like for her to be returned to me as a cook whenever I rejoin the train. She says her master's name is, I think, Thompson. If he is a Federal she will, of course, be confiscated. I will keep you apprised of all I shall be able to learn of the enemy.

Yours, truly,

STAND WATIE,
Colonel, Commanding Troops on Arkansas River.

[General D. H. Cooper.]

P. S.—With regard to the black woman I am informed by Mr. Akins that she belongs, or did three years ago, to James Latty. Was raised by old Mr. Latty, near Evansville.

WATIE.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS INDIAN DIVISION,
June 19, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for General Maxey's information.

Re-enforcements were sent to Colonel Watie day before yesterday. Shall send a heavy scout toward Scullyville to prevent Federal cavalry from getting in his rear.

D. H. COOPER,
Brigadier-General.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST INDIAN BRIGADE,
Camp, Limestone Prairie, June 27, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the movements of my command up to this date: On the 10th of May Col. W. P. Adair was ordered to the neighborhood of Arkansas River, from which the movements of the enemy were watched on both sides by means of scouting parties. On the 5th of this month, hearing that the Arkansas was rising rapidly, I started with two pieces of cannon in that direction. Lieutenant Forrester, of the battery, followed with the third piece. The battery was consolidated on the Canadian, near Kribbs', and Lieutenant Forrester ordered to take position with it at Pheasant Bluff, which he did. On the 15th June a boat containing commissary supplies and quartermaster's stores, en route from Fort Smith to Fort Gibson, was captured at this point. A great many of the men left to secure the plunder captured, thus leaving me without a sufficient force to secure the battery from even a small party.

In this condition I learned that a detachment of Federals of superior strength was approaching up the Arkansas on the south side, and I was compelled to burn the commissary stores captured, as I could not defend them successfully with the force I had, and the Canadian River being so high re-enforcements from Colonel Adair was impossible. After retreating 12 miles I met the Chickasaws, who had been ordered to support me. I ordered a party of 150, under Major Campbell, to the iron bridge on San Bois, which they reached about daylight or a little after.

The Federals soon made their appearance and a skirmish ensued. The enemy brought up and commenced using his artillery, when the detachment fell back. The skirmish served to check the enemy, who precipitately retreated from this point toward Fort Smith, as was learned by a scout afterward.

In the mean time and before the capture of the boat, Major Gillett was ordered with a scouting party to the neighborhood of Fort Smith. I have not received any report from him. The Cherokee force is now collected here, having all been ordered in to facilitate the reorganization of the regiments and companies. The Creeks are at present doing scouting duty.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,
STAND WATIE,
Colonel, Commanding First Indian Brigade.

Brig. Gen. D. H. COOPER.

JUNE 15–17, 1864.—Attack on Union gun-boats at Ratliff's (15th), Como (15th and 16th), and Magnolia Landings (16th), and skirmish (17th) at Newport Cross-Roads, La.

*Reports of Col. John S. Scott, First Louisiana Cavalry.**

HDQRS. SOUTHWEST MISS. AND EAST LA., *June* 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following facts: Having anticipated a trip to the Mississippi River at a point above this, on General Buckner's arrival here I accompanied him on the 12th with two of my regiments and five guns to Tunica, the point where he desired to cross the river, arriving the next day. On the 14th, I made a reconnaissance and sent in under cover of night two 12-pounder howitzers and 3-inch rifle to Ratliff's Landing, and my two Sawyer guns to Como, about 3 miles above. At the former landing I encountered the No. 53 tin-clad, which was so seriously injured that I have since learned she was grounded on Cat Island Bar. Their best tin-clad (the Bragg) held Como Landing, she lying near enough to the bank for the use of sharpshooters, who were very effectual in keeping her men from her principal guns, which were fore and aft on deck, and was only relieved from destruction by a monitor which lay at Tunica Landing, 3 miles above. On her approach my guns were withdrawn. The Bragg still holding her position, I determined on the next day to concentrate all my guns against her, which was effectually done without their knowledge. At 1 a. m. I opened on her, firing 42 shots, 32 of which took effect, so completely disabling her that she had to be towed off by the monitor, who came again to her relief. During the engagement she succeeded in firing but 3 shots.

My ammunition for the rifled gun having nearly given out, I sent two 12-pounder howitzers and two Napoleons to Magnolia Landing, about 7 miles above Port Hudson, where we arrived at night. Soon after my guns were placed in position, the Landis, a Government transport, came steaming down within 100 yards of the shore. In consequence of inferior quality of friction primers the guns failed to fire in battery. Some 7 shots, however, were fired, during which time the boat signaled her distress, and two gun-boats dropped down from Bayou Sara, 3 miles above. Having only smooth-bores, my guns withdrew. On my march the next day down the Baton Rouge road, at Mrs. Newport's cross-roads, within 7 miles of Port Hudson, a force of infantry and cavalry from that place was most handsomely repulsed by Major Ogden.

From my experience since here I have but little hesitation in saying that with guns of a proper caliber gun-boats can be made very scarce, particularly tin-clads. My 9-pounder Napoleon guns I consider a complete failure, and but little or no service, the carriages being too light. During the time I was operating above I had Colonel Powers in the neighborhood of Baton Rouge for the purpose of occupying the enemy, who are in large force, and at the same time to sack some few Government plantations in that vicinity. In consequence of the high waters of the Comite nothing could be effected. With the exception of a few slight wounds, I have sustained no injury during the different engagements.

J. S. SCOTT, *Colonel.*

Brig. Gen. WIRT ADAMS, *Comdg. Cav. Div., Jackson.*

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*For Union naval reports, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

CLINTON, LA., *June* 20, 1864.

The gun-boat 53, attacked by me on the 15th, has been beached on Cat Island Bar to prevent her sinking. The General Bragg, attacked on 16th, has 32 shots through her, is entirely disabled, and nearly all of her crew killed and wounded. Attacked the U. S. transport Landis 6 miles above Port Hudson on night of 16th. She reported sunk near Baton Rouge.

J. S. SCOTT,
Colonel, Commanding District.

Maj. Gen. S. D. LEE.

JUNE 16, 1864.—Affair on Big North Fork Creek, near Preston, Mo.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.
No. 2.—Sergt. Reuben W. Smith, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Charles W. Blair, Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT SCOTT, KANS., *June* 16, 1864.

About noon to-day a party of 30 men of Company C, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, were attacked in the brush 40 miles south of here, on the Carthage road, as they returned from a scout. There were 100 of the enemy visible that were counted. The firing was pretty brisk for a few minutes, 1 of our men being killed, 2 of theirs were killed, and 3 rode off hanging down on the side of their saddles, and are badly, if not mortally, wounded. Sergeant Smith, who was in command, and who is a cool and observant man, drew his men out on the prairie to have a fair chance. The enemy declined to follow, but as the woods seemed to be full of the enemy, our troops slowly retired. Shall start a scout of 100 men immediately to try to find them, but as they are so far off have but little hope.

C. W. BLAIR,
Colonel.

General MCKEAN.

No. 2.

Report of Sergt. Reuben W. Smith, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

HDQRS. COMPANY C, THIRD WISCONSIN CAV.,
Dry Wood, Mo., June 16, 1864.

Col. C. W. BLAIR,
Commanding First Brigade, South Kansas:

COLONEL: Orderly Smith has made his report, which is inclosed, of the sad casualty to our company to-day. The body undoubtedly lies there, and I would like permission to go down with a body of men sufficient to obtain it and to make such endeavor as would be prudent to obtain the cattle. My first duty is to put my company in fighting trim. We need forty carbines, twenty-five pistols, and at least forty saddles. We have the horses, but no saddles. From every indication these rebels were well mounted and armed with guns of

heavy shooting caliber and handled themselves as if accustomed to regular warfare, and I have no doubt but they are the advance or flankers of the reported force of 600 at Pineville.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. M. EHLE,
Second Lieutenant, Commanding Company C.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. COMPANY C, THIRD WISCONSIN CAV. VOLS.,
Dry Wood, Mo., June 16, 1864.

SIR: Agreeably to your order of the 13th instant, I proceeded to Carthage, Mo., with 30 men of this company, for the purpose of bringing out cattle for use of the Government trains. I was delayed two days after my arrival at Carthage on the 13th instant, and started for Fort Scott on the 16th instant at daybreak. All was quiet on the road until after we had crossed the lower ford, on Big North Fork, near Preston, Mo., where 46 rebels came out a short distance from the timber and kept a continuous advance and firing upon us while we were so badly scattered as to afford no possible time for us to form line. I immediately ordered a retreat and formed line about 100 yards from where we were first attacked and across a ravine, where the rebels came to a halt but continued firing. After exchanging a few rounds the rebels withdrew and fell back into the timber, where I had previously discovered another body of men, and this attack being so close to the timber, it was impossible to follow them without running into three times our number. I ordered 2 men to the right about one-half mile to an eminence on the prairie, where all that surrounded us was visible to them, and made a discovery of about 30 rebels on the opposite side of the point of timber from where we were attacked, but none of them from either side offered us an engagement on the prairie. The loss on our side was 1 killed—Eugene Hunt, a private. This was done before the men had all got together. Three of the enemy wounded and 1 mortally. The cattle ran into the timber about 200 yards from the rebel camp, leaving no opportunity of recapturing them without great sacrifice. I was consequently obliged to leave them and slowly retreat to camp on Dry Wood to-night.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant,

R. W. SMITH,
First Sergeant Company C, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.

Col. C. W. BLAIR,
Commanding Post, Fort Scott, Kans.

JUNE 16–17, 1864.—Expedition from Fort Leavenworth, Kans., to Farley, &c., Mo.

Report of Maj. Robert H. Hunt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *June* 17, 1864.

SIR: Pursuant to Special Orders, No. 44, dated headquarters District of North Kansas, June 16, 1864, I have the honor briefly to report the result of the expedition. As directed, the command left this post at 7 p. m. and crossed the ferry at Leavenworth City at about 9 p. m. I directed Captain Hughes, as per order, to take a position on the boat for the purpose of covering a retreat and there to remain till our return. The general's scout, David Causort, and

a citizen of Missouri, who was supposed to have known where the camp of the enemy was, accompanied us. We traveled the river road to the town of Farley, about 6 or 7 miles east from Leavenworth City. When near the town the advance captured 2 citizens, armed, one with a double-barreled shotgun, and the other with a pistol, which we deprived them of and ordered them to accompany us. When we arrived at Farley we searched the house of Dr. Holt, hoping to find his son, a young guerrilla, at home. We found an older brother, who represented himself from Falls City, Nebr. He referred us to Major Burbank as to his loyalty. We took from him 1 revolver. We then proceeded southeast, striking the Platte in a few miles. Here we halted within a half mile of the river and sent the scouts over to arrest any one who could communicate information. That performed, we proceeded to the ferry-boat, a very small craft, capable of carrying only 10 men and horses at a time. We consumed about half an hour in crossing and on we went, hoping every little while to come in contact with the enemy, all eager for a brush, but no enemy. At just before daylight we halted at the house of a Union man, who seemed to be alarmed that we had ventured out so far with so small a force. He added that there were at least 500 guerrillas within 10 miles. At this point we had traveled at least 25 miles. At daylight we breakfasted, dividing our forces for the purpose. Having found no enemy and our limits being fixed, we returned, taking a circuitous route, crossing the Platte at Gordon's Ford, 2 miles below Platte City. We met but one man on our return trip until we came to the Missouri River, where I expected to find Captain Hughes, who was instructed to await the return of the command. I presume he was relieved by proper authority. No calamity on the trip; no incident worth relating but has been noted. The command returned about 11 a. m. to this post.

I have the honor, sir, to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. H. HUNT,
Major, Fifteenth Kansas Vol. Cav., Comdg. Expedition.

Lieut. DAVID J. CRAIGIE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 16–20, 1864.—Expedition from Kansas into Missouri.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Thomas J. McKean, U. S. Army, commanding District of South Kansas.

No. 3.—Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, commanding expedition.

No. 4.—Lieut. Col. George H. Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Kansas.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS., *June* 18, 1864.

GENERAL: After your dispatch, giving intelligence of rebels on Sni Hills, General McKean concentrated cavalry at Aubrey, and after

*See also report of Col. James H. Ford, of scout from Kansas City, Mo., p. 1032.

further intelligence of concentration of rebels on the line between Jackson and La Fayette Counties, two detachments moved forward, one scouring the timber of the Blue and the other the Grand River timber, the two to meet at Sni Hills. Last evening Colonel Ford was notified, but fearing messenger would be intercepted he did not notify General Brown, but desires you to do so from Saint Louis by telegraph.

On the 16th, the bushwhackers attacked some of my Wisconsin troops about 40 miles southeast of Fort Scott. We lost 1 man and rebels 2, besides 3 that got off wounded. Will send you copy of General McKean's report.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *June* 22, 1864.

General McKean reports expedition returned from Sni Hills; acted in concert with your troops, under Colonel Ford; found only small bands of bushwhackers, that scattered in all directions.

S. R. CURTIS,
Major-General.

General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas J. McKean, U. S. Army, commanding District of South Kansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTH KANSAS,
Paola, Kans., June 17, 1864.

GENERAL: About midnight, between the 13th and 14th instant, I received your dispatch giving information received from headquarters Department of the Missouri that rebels were reported to be concentrating in the Sni Hills of Missouri. I immediately commenced concentrating at Aubrey a force from the Second Brigade of my command (scattered over a distance of about 70 miles), and by daylight on the morning of the 14th, had at Aubrey a sufficient force for defense against any number that could probably be brought against that point by the enemy. While waiting the arrival of the balance of our troops scouts were engaged in searching for the enemy in Jackson and Cass Counties, Mo.

On the morning of the 15th instant our troops had all arrived at Aubrey, were rationed and foraged, but no satisfactory intelligence concerning the enemy was received until the evening of that day, when reports indicated that they were concentrating or endeavoring to concentrate on the line between Jackson and La Fayette Counties, Mo. On the 16th instant our troops, under command of Colonel Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, moved without baggage into Missouri in two detachments of four squadrons each; one under Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, to scour the

timber of the Blue, and the other under the immediate command of Colonel Moonlight, to scour the Grand River timber, the two to meet at the Sni Hills this evening (17th). Colonel Moonlight was to reach Pleasant Hill last night (16th) and confer with Colonel Ford, Second Colorado Volunteers, commanding sub-division of the adjoining district in Missouri, and make arrangements for co-operation. Colonel Moonlight had not been able previously to communicate directly with Colonel Ford, and I had refrained from communicating with General Brown, commanding the district in Missouri, lest rebel experts should tap the telegraph and get information of our intended movements, and concluded to leave the arrangements for co-operation, under authority of General Rosecrans' instructions to General Brown, to the immediate commanders in the field. General Brown will probably feel hurt until he hears the explanation. To replace in some degree the companies removed from their stations along the line, the proper officers of the militia were requested to call into active service details from the several regiments along the border, arrangements having previously been made with these officers, under authority from the Governor, for action in case of such emergency, and 300 men of each regiment notified in advance to meet any such call. Although it is a very busy time with farmers, the call was promptly responded to in most cases. In Linn County, however, owing to some misunderstanding in regard to the organization of the regiment, or some other cause not yet fully understood by me, the number desired did not turn out, but as I only expected to employ these men at present to watch the country in the absence of our troops, I can probably arrange to do so without the other company that I desired in that county until the return of the expedition, unless we are pressed by parties of the enemy yet moving up from below. There are parties of them moving up north, as reports from Colonel Blair show.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. McKEAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding District.

Maj. Gen. S. R. CURTIS,
Comdg. Dept. of Kansas, Fort Leavenworth.

No. 3.

Report of Col. Thomas Moonlight, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, commanding expedition.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, DISTRICT OF SOUTH KANSAS,
Mound City, Kans., June 26, 1864.

In obedience to the following dispatch by messenger, marked A, and also one by telegraph, marked B, I proceeded as directed, by stage, to Paola at 12 m., 14th instant, from thence by special conveyance same night to Olathe, where I arrived at midnight, and made the proper arrangements with the commissary and quartermaster departments, Lieutenant Nichols, Fifteenth Kansas, in charge. Next morning I proceeded to Aubrey, where I found the following concentration of troops: Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, in command; Companies A and D, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, in their proper encampment, Aubrey being their

station; Companies I and K, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, from Shawnee Mission and Oxford; Companies F and G, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, from Olathe; Companies B and C, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, from Coldwater Grove and Rockville, and Company L, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, from Camp Clayton. During the day Company F, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, arrived from Potosi; Company B, same regiment, from this place, making splendid marches, and Company E, same regiment, from Lawrence, making in all twelve companies, with four mountain howitzers. As it was necessary to communicate, if possible, with Colonel Ford, commanding sub-district of Missouri, where the bushwhackers were reported, I detached Company K, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Captain Allen commanding, with instructions to proceed to Raytown and deliver my message to Colonel Ford, reported there. I may here say, *en passant*, that at 10 a. m. 15th, it commenced raining, continuing twenty-four hours. Captain Allen returned at 3 a. m. 16th, having marched about 36 miles without meeting Colonel Ford, as he had on the 15th marched to Pleasant Hill, Mo., where I determined to join him early the next day. As suggested by the general commanding this district, to insure safety on the border during my absence with the command, the following companies were left: A and D, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, at Aubrey, Captain Kunkel, Eleventh Kansas, commanding; two howitzers with Company A; Company E, Eleventh, at Oxford with two howitzers, Captain Walker commanding; Company L, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, at Camp Clayton, Lieutenant Hadley commanding. These companies had instructions to scout thoroughly the country into Missouri. At noon on the 16th, the command marched in two columns as follows: Companies B, C, F, and G, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, with instructions to join Major Pritchard at Raytown and scour the timbered hills of the Blue. (See report of Colonel Hoyt regarding his part of the expedition, herewith inclosed.) Companies B, F, I, and K, of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, under my own command, struck the headwaters of the north fork of Grand River and scoured that country thoroughly, part of the command crossing at Morristown and part some 8 miles below. A portion of the command went through Harrisonville and scouted the timber of Big Creek up to Pleasant Hill, while the other portion went farther north, all arriving at Pleasant Hill by noon, 17th, a distance of about 50 miles. So thoroughly was the country scouted between Pleasant Hill and Kansas, yet without seeing the sign of an enemy, that I am convinced no force has been there since growing of grass.

I met Colonel Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, commanding sub-district, at Pleasant Hill. My command was warmly received, and their wants promptly attended to. General Brown, commanding district in which we then were, directed Colonel Ford to send me with my command to Hickman Mills, and Colonel Hoyt with his to Little Santa Fé, on the line. Colonel Ford tried to open communication with Colonel Hoyt, but failed, so that he was permitted thereby to give the brush such a raking as it never got before. That night Captain Joy, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, with his company (I), started east to the line of Johnson and Cass Counties, and scouted south as far as east of Harrisonville, returning next day up the timber to Hickman Mills. This scout was to prevent a movement of the enemy into Kansas without my knowledge during my absence. Companies F and K, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, marched

for Hickman Mills next morning to await my return. At 2 in the morning (18th) Colonel Ford, with about 100 Second Colorado Cavalry, a few footmen, and Company B, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Lieutenant Taber commanding, started for the purpose of intercepting the enemy likely to be driven out by Colonel Hoyt. I accompanied Colonel Ford at his request. We reached Lone Jack at daylight, and proceeded to give the Sni Hills a general inspection. But few bushwhackers were seen, as it was evident they were leaving for La Fayette and Johnson Counties. We struck a gang of 15 some 5 miles in La Fayette County. A skirmish ensued, without damage on either side. About an hour afterward a gang of 50 was run into by our flanking party; the enemy broke and ran. Company B, Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, on the south flank, captured 2 U. S. mules and a U. S. horse, which was proven by Colonel Ford as one of Company M's horses, Second Colorado. He was accordingly given up. The 2 mules are still in the possession of Lieutenant Taber, and will be sent up to the provost-marshal first opportunity.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt joined us that night with his command at Mr. Robinson's, some 5 miles from Sibley, which is on the Missouri River. During that day we marched about 55 miles. From every sign and signal we were all convinced that the bushwhackers were concentrating on Black Water, in Johnson County, and as the border tier of counties were once more freed from their sway, I deemed it prudent and right to return as rapidly as possible, which was done, the entire command recrossing the border about noon on the 20th. I remained at Aubrey that night, making the proper disposition of the troops, and returned here on the evening of the 21st.

The entire command started with only five days' hard bread in their saddle-bags, a blanket and overcoat apiece on their horses. This includes the officers from myself down, and while the weather was oppressively warm and the marches long, hazardous, and rough, not a single complaint ever reached my ears. Officers and soldiers seemed to strive and vie with each other in the line of duty. Where all exhibited in a marked degree patriotism, endurance, and gallantry, it is difficult to particularize. To Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt is due much credit for his promptitude and gallantry during the entire expedition, and to his adjutant, Lieutenant Goble, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, who assisted me prior to the division of the command (I had no staff officers). Lieutenant Nichols, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, quartermaster and commissary at Olathe, is deserving of special mention for the deep interest he took in the welfare of the command. I had nearly forgotten to say that Assistant Surgeon Erickson, Sixteenth Kansas Cavalry, accompanied me on the expedition, heroically enduring every trial and hardship like a true soldier. His instruments and medicines were strapped on a mule, yclept ambulance, and the doctor was at all times on hand administering to the wants of the men, several of whom, had he not been present, would have suffered. He volunteered for the trip and is entitled to more than ordinary credit. The expedition throughout reflects credit on the troops, District and Department of Kansas, and I think the moral effect it had on the bushwhackers will be greater than anything heretofore done. They now feel that we will cross into Missouri when danger threatens our border, and that we will not wait until Kansas is invaded before we strike at them. I would also state that I was cordially supported through your headquarters by the commissary and quartermaster depot at Paola.

Permit me again to say that Colonel Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry, and his officers are not only entitled to our thanks but gratitude for the soldierly and manly way in which we were treated. Their desire is to co-operate heartily with us in the border troubles. One thing is worthy of notice. Wherever we found settlements there we found signs of bushwhackers, and vice versa. Around Hickman Mills, Pleasant Hill, and the Sni Hills there are a good many farmers returned under the order of General Brown, all of them bearing protection papers, either from General Brown's headquarters or headquarters Saint Louis. From Westport down the border, say a breadth of 15 or 20 miles, there are but few settlers except around Hickman Mills. If a raid is made into Kansas, so far as my border extends, I think it will be by a concentration on Black Water timber, in Johnson County, and making the march from there during the night, between Harrisonville and Pleasant Hill.

Respectfully submitted.

T. MOONLIGHT,
Colonel Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, Commanding.

Capt. GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Paola.

[Inclosures.]

A.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF SOUTH KANSAS,
Paola, June 13, 1864—12 p. m.

Colonel MOONLIGHT,
Commanding Brigade, Mound City:

The enemy reported 500 strong near Sni Hills, Mo. Proceed to Aubrey, where troops will be concentrated, and take command. Have Colonel Snoddy call the militia.

By order of Brigadier-General McKean:

GEO. S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

B.

PAOLA, *June* 14, 1864.

Colonel MOONLIGHT:

Messenger was sent last night instructing you to go to Aubrey and take command of troops concentrating there. If you can come by stage to-day a conveyance will be ready here for Olathe.

T. J. McKEAN,
Brigadier-General.

No. 4.

Report of Lieut. Col. George H. Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry.

OLATHE, KANS., *June* 21, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to the following telegram, received June 14, 1864, 1.45 a. m., I ordered the troops under my command, consisting of Companies F and G, Fifteenth Regiment, stationed at Olathe; Company B, Sixteenth, stationed at Shawnee; Company I,

Eleventh, stationed at Shawnee Mission; Company L, Fifth, stationed at Camp Clayton, and Company K, Eleventh, at Oxford, to march forthwith to Aubrey, at which place soon after daylight the entire command was assembled:

PAOLA, *June* 14, 1864.

Colonel HOYT:

Enemy reported 500 strong near Sni Hills. Concentrate at or near Aubrey, and call out militia.

By order of Brigadier-General McKean:

GEORGE S. HAMPTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The command was further augmented by the arrival early in the day of Company B, Fifteenth Regiment, stationed at Coldwater Grove, and Company C, Fifteenth Regiment, at Rockville. Companies A and D, Eleventh Regiment, which had been for a long time stationed at Aubrey, were also in readiness; also a section of mountain howitzers, attached to Eleventh Regiment, and commanded by Lieut. C. T. Slane, Company A, Eleventh, with a detachment of that company. According to verbal instructions from you to march at noon of the 16th instant and form a junction with the battalion of Second Colorado troops, commanded by Major Pritchard, I moved at 12 o'clock precisely, with Companies B, C, F, and G, Fifteenth Regiment, toward Raytown, Mo., at which point I arrived at sunset, joining the command above referred to. It gives me pleasure to report that Major Pritchard and his officers received my command with the utmost cordiality. It was deemed on consultation advisable to scour the country of the Little Blue thoroughly; scouts for several days prior, by Second Colorado, having betrayed the presence there of bodies of guerrillas.

Early the (following) morning of 17th, accompanied by Major Pritchard's command, I moved 6 miles above Raytown, to the Little Blue, and scattered the command in small parties, penetrating every part of the infested section. My troops scaled the cliffs, "raking down" the brush and thickets in every direction, frequently dismounting squads in order to reach points inaccessible to cavalry. This was continued until night, when by preconcert, having reached a point below Blue Springs, the command concentrated and camped at Massey's farm. Although ordered by you, if possible, to join you at Stonestreet's, 7 miles below, I deemed it necessary to camp here and "finish" the Blue timber next day. This was accomplished by Companies B, C, and F, Fifteenth Regiment, while Company G, with a portion of Second Colorado, under command of Captain Wagoner, scouted a portion of the Sni Hills, with instructions to scout thoroughly that portion which I believed your command farther east would not reach. The command concentrated in the afternoon at Snibar Station, formerly known as Mason's farm, and marched thence to Robinson's place, north of Pink Hill, where I reported to you.

I found no guerrillas on Little Blue, with the exception of a small squad of 7, who were seen by citizens some hours before my arrival. A deserted camp was found by Captain Simpson, Company C, Fifteenth Regiment, in Hickory Grove, which apparently had been unoccupied for three or four weeks. Two U. S. horses and 1 contraband horse, found tied to the fence in the brush, and having convincing signs of having been abandoned by the enemy, were found by Captain Curtis, Company F, Fifteenth Regiment. The branded

horses I have turned over to Col. J. H. Ford, Second Colorado Volunteers, to whose regiment the horses belonged, and the contraband to Lieutenant Bennett, provost-marshal of this district, duplicates of whose receipts I have the honor to inclose. Observations on this scout leads me to the conclusion that the enemy have moved *pro tempore* to some other locality, perhaps the larger portion across the Missouri River.

In conclusion, permit me to refer to the praiseworthy behavior of both officers and men of my command. To Captain Joy, commanding Company I, Eleventh Kansas; Captain Allen, Company K, Eleventh Kansas; Captain Curtis, Company F; Captain Simpson, Company C; Captain Thompson, Company B; Second Lieutenant Barker, commanding Company G, Fifteenth Kansas, especial praise is due. First Lieutenant Hadley, commanding Company L, Fifth Kansas, was ordered to remain at Camp Clayton, on the border. All the movements of these officers were characterized by vigor, promptitude, and zeal. In this connection allow me again to refer to the manly and earnest co-operation of Major Pritchard, who was heartily seconded in his efforts by Captains Greene and Wagoner, Second Colorado Volunteers.

Your obedient servant,

GEO. H. HOYT,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifteenth Kansas Vol. Cav., Comdg.

Col. Thos. Moonlight,
Comdg. Second Brigade, District of South Kansas.

JUNE 17, 1864.—Skirmish near Columbia, Mo.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joseph B. Douglass, Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Hdqrs. 8th Mil. Dist., Enrolled Missouri Militia,
Columbia, Mo., June 17, 1864.

General: I wrote to General Gray last night that the delay on the North Missouri Railroad in getting up the guns I feared would prove fatal, and I regret now to inform you that my worst fears have been realized. Major Evans left Centralia early this morning with fifty shotguns and an escort of 5 soldiers (all that he could get), and had got within 2 miles of Columbia, when they were fired on from the brush by a band of armed rebels. The first fire wounded 2 soldiers very badly and killed the horse of the third. He immediately started the wagon and team ahead, but they were followed some 2 miles, where a second encounter took place, in which the major with only 2 men were overpowered and the wagon and arms were captured by the rebels. Thus all our hopes for the time being are blasted. I had a meeting of the citizens to-night, and some 50 pledged themselves to help defend the town, and unless we can get arms or can have soldiers sent here, we will have to abandon our homes and seek safety in some other quarter. I send this by Maj. R. G. Lyell, a true and good man. I also wish to get a duplicate of arms and ammunition for this post for those lost to-day. These arms cannot now be gotten here from the North Missouri Railroad, and I have directed Major Lyell to come by way of Jefferson City, and I hope you will order the post commander at Jefferson City to furnish

him an escort from Jefferson City, which is 30 miles from here, or they may take a boat and land at Providence, which is 2 miles from Columbia. There can be no doubt but there is quite a large band of rebels north of the Missouri River, and it will require energetic measures to disperse them; but this should be done at the earliest possible moment. There should be no temporizing, but speedy punishment should be inflicted on these marauders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. DOUGLASS,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

JUNE 17, 1864.—Skirmish on the Monticello road, near Pine Bluff, Ark.

Report of Col. Powell Clayton, Fifth Kansas Cavalry.

PINE BLUFF, *June* 17, 1864.

About 12 o'clock yesterday three of the scouting parties returned. Two of them reported a brigade of cavalry (rebel) at Connersville, and that all the roads in the direction of Monticello are picketed and patrolled daily. The other party went in the direction of Jenkins' Ferry, and report all quiet. About 1.30 o'clock the pickets on the upper Monticello road were driven by a large force of the enemy's cavalry. After skirmishing with them for some time, Lieutenant-Colonel Jenkins, Fifth Kansas Cavalry, succeeded in driving them and pursued them as far as was safe, killing and wounding several of them. Our casualties are 2 or 3 slightly wounded. A dispatch bearer and his dispatch was captured and brought in yesterday morning. The following is a copy of the rebel dispatch:

OFFICE POST COMMANDANT,
Warren, June 12, 1864

Capt. C. C. WOLFE,
Commanding Picket Post, Mount Elba Road:

CAPTAIN: I have just received your note, and in reply will state that we have pickets on the Warren, Princeton, and Tulip roads, and in fact on every road leading from this place. I am glad you are aware of the necessity of reporting any advance of the enemy. Lee is in his fortifications at Richmond. Grant is in 7 miles of him, yet do not feel discouraged. That is Lee, Davis, Beauregard, Johnston's, and Bragg's plan. Johnston has given Sherman a severe whipping, taking 16,000 prisoners; no doubt of this. Everything is bright and buoyant. I shall be pleased to hear from you again.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, &c.,
CHARLES G. NEWMAN,
Captain, Commanding Post.

A scout of 200 men was sent out yesterday morning in the direction of the Wautscha Bayou. I arrived last night about 10 o'clock.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PINE BLUFF, ARK.

Lieutenant Grove, Seventh Missouri Cavalry, has just returned with his scout of 20 men, and reports that the forces which attacked

our pickets on yesterday were 700 strong, and hearing of their being on the upper Monticello road that he made a rapid march for Connersville, and while they were absent he burned their camp and equipage. The rebels were commanded by Colonel Stemmings.

POWELL CLAYTON,
Colonel, Commanding Pine Bluff.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 18-19, 1864.—Descent on Laclede, Mo., and Pursuit of the Raiders.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

No. 2.—Capt. Eli J. Crandall, Linn County, Missouri, Enrolled Militia.

No. 3.—Lieut. Joseph M. Brown, Eighteenth Missouri Infantry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, U. S. Army, commanding District of North Missouri.

SAINT JOSEPH, MO., *June* 21, 1864.

A gang of guerrillas from Chariton County dashed into Laclede on Saturday and killed 2 citizens and plundered others. Troops from Brookfield, under Captain Crandall, were ordered in pursuit. Three of the guerrillas have been killed, and the stolen property mostly recovered.

CLINTON B. FISK,
Brigadier-General.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Missouri.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. Eli J. Crandall, Linn County, Missouri, Enrolled Militia.

BROOKFIELD, *June* 19, 1864.

GENERAL: I find that 16 bushwhackers, under command, it is said, of Captain Holtzclaw, came into Laclede last night about 5 p. m., and arrested the citizens who could be readily found. One man by name of Crowder shot 1 of them, and was instantly killed himself. They also shot a man by name of Jones, a good, loyal man. Our boys were mounted, and went from here, and some went on an engine and drove them out of town in a hurry. Lieutenant Lewis ran them with 25 men until after dark; he then returned to Laclede, and has again left Laclede; at daylight he run them into the timber; a portion, some 4 in number, pressed the mail hack, and put their man who was wounded in it, and also a lot of plunder taken from stores, which our men captured again. The men on the engine shot

1 dead in the hack, and the driver was wounded, and the other 2 cut the harness and left. But 1 of them was shot from the horse, but it was in the edge of the timber. They found the horse, but it was so dark they could not find the man. They will look for him this morning. I am going into the rebel portion of the county where these men sprung up from so suddenly. I will report when I come in from my trip.

E. J. CRANDALL,
Captain.

General FISK.

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BROOKFIELD, *June* 20, 1864.

GENERAL: I had my whole force out yesterday after those bushwhackers. Lieutenant Lewis, with 40 men, is now after them. They came into Laclede about 5 o'clock in the afternoon and took the town. I think they had at least 50 or 60 prisoners while in town. They then went into the stores of some men and took all the money they could get and what other things they could conveniently carry off. I have the amount, or nearly so; shall have the exact account of all goods, &c., taken sworn to by each of the losers, and shall be ready to make the assessment on their sympathizing friends who feed and harbor them. This will stop bushwhacking. Shall I go ahead with the assessment? I will make full statement to you of losses, and also of assessments, giving the names of all the victims.

We captured 3 horses from the bushwhackers. One of them we killed was a brother of the man who killed Brock; the other was a bad egg by name of Callahan. I have the names of more of them who were in the gang; they live in this and Chariton Counties. We shot the face most off one who got away. He will not live.

E. J. CRANDALL,
Captain.

General FISK.

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BROOKFIELD, *June* 20, 1864.

GENERAL: Lieutenant Lewis with his men were heard from this morning, still running the bushwhackers; he run into their camp last night and routed them. They had a log house for rendezvous, with bacon and other stores for living, in a place near the forks of Yellow Creek and Grand River. Lieutenant Lewis burned the establishment, provisions, and other plunder, and arrested 2 or 3 men who used to be bushwhacking in 1861, but have since taken the oath. One says he was with the bushwhackers and helped to bushwhack a company of the Seventh Missouri Cavalry at Hurricane Creek, Carroll County, in 1861. They had any amount of bacon and meat and bread, some corn, which had been furnished by somebody. He could not find anybody who had been furnishing either forcibly or voluntarily. Lieutenant Lewis sent the prisoners back and he is still running them south.

E. J. CRANDALL,
Captain.

General FISK.

HDQRS. LINN COUNTY ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA,
Brookfield, June 20, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 18th of this month a band of rebel bushwhackers came into the town of Laclede, Linn County, and robbed several of our Union citizens and shot 2 of them. There were 16 of the bushwhackers, commanded by Holtzclaw, of Howard County. The greater portion of the men composing his company were known to our citizens. They came into the town from the west, and arrested the citizens as they came to them and marched them to the public square. One man (an esteemed soldier) by name of Crowder, shot 1 of the devils through from a window, and the same man turned and shot him (Crowder) dead, through the window, after he was wounded by Crowder. About this time one of the citizens started to run (a Mr. Jones) and was immediately shot by some of the bushwhackers. On their first appearance in town a messenger started immediately for Brookfield and informed Lieutenant Billings, who detailed as many men as he could mount and started with them, and also sent a few soldiers on an engine, with such railroad employés as were at hand to volunteer. They ran the engine to Laclede, and the bushwhackers had loaded their wounded men into the hack that carries the mail from Laclede to Linneus, and had gone west toward Locust Bottoms. Our men who were on the engine followed up the hack, which had some distance to go by the side of the track before they could turn off. When they came within shooting distance they commenced a running fight. The wounded man (James Nave) was killed. The other man in the hack and the driver were both wounded, and the 2 escorts riding on horseback were mortally wounded, 1 of them since killed. The driver was taken back to Laclede, as he was pressed with the hack. The other 2 wounded men have not as yet been found. One had his leg broken and the other had one side of his face torn all to pieces by two charges of buckshot. Lieutenant Lewis has been after them ever since and has returned to-night, after riding some 60 miles in pursuit, and to our surprise they were at 4 p. m. last night within 2½ miles of Laclede again. This trip has again proven to me the perfect folly of chasing bushwhackers while the country is full of law-abiding citizens to harbor and feed them. Lieutenant Lewis heard of them from place to place, and from rebels that they had just gone on such a road but a short time before, but after riding in that direction 8 or 10 miles, would hear of them in another direction, but in no instance could he hear who fed them or their horses. Lieutenant Lewis followed the trail of 8 or 10 men across Grand River and stopped at a rebel's house for breakfast, and, after some considerable argument, prevailed upon them to get some, and while they were at this house some one of the men picked up a copy of the New York Day-Book, and noticing some article not particularly pleasing he tore up the copy he had and all the other copies of the same paper found in the room; that was the extent of damage done at that place. At the next place they stopped to inquire for the bushwhackers, and could find out nothing. The same soldier who tore up the Day-Book at the other place saw a copy at this house, and that had to be destroyed. A young man living there said something insulting to one of the soldiers as they were moving off, and the soldier dismounted and knocked the said rebel down, and then mounted and followed his company. This Lieutenant Lewis did not know of at the time. At this house our boys found two loaded guns, and as they knew the

men they broke the guns. Our boys then went to the house of a Union man in the neighborhood, and a young lady ran out and met them, and told Lieutenant Lewis that she had just left a house near by, not over a quarter of a mile off, where I think a Bolon lives, and that 6 strange men were there when she left. Lewis immediately went to the house and every person had left the house; it was entirely alone. He could find nothing of them. He looked about and found a revolver, some caps and lead, and 3 or 4 pounds of powder, all of which he has brought in.

He had also got track of another bad man by name of Wingate. He knew from Union people what kind of a man he was, and Lewis also learned that Wingate had bought a new revolver and that he was a dangerous man. This Wingate, on seeing our forces coming, took his revolver and put for the brush. Lewis did not know this, but on coming up to the house, he asked for the revolver and Mrs. Wingate said she knew nothing of it. Lewis told her she must produce the revolver and show them where Wingate was or they would burn the establishment out. They found a man at this place by name of McDonald, and the lieutenant asked him about rebels, and about where Wingate could be found. The man was very insolent and refused to tell anything. The lieutenant gave orders for a rope to be procured and if this man would not tell about where Wingate was he should be hung. This frightened him so badly that he told them that Wingate had gone, with his revolver, to the brush, which is just as it was. They searched for arms at this place and found three old rifles and one new U. S. musket, complete, with cartridges, boxes, belts, and all this property was taken and turned over to me. Lieutenant Lewis and men say this is the extent of damage done, and that no plundering has been allowed on the part of any of the men. I instructed him to go out and catch those bushwhackers, if possible, and to feed his horses and men on rebels and sympathizers, as they were the cause of the present trouble, and must now come into Abraham's bosom, and help to stand the expense of putting down the rebellion and clearing the country of these desperadoes.

I am anxiously waiting to assess the damages on these rebels to pay for the losses of our loyal people at Laclede. I have their bills made out, and their affidavit attached certifying as to their respective losses. Some men, unless they are helped, will be broken up entirely, as they took over $1,000 from one man; and the man Crowder, who was killed, leaves a wife and several children dependent entirely upon charity. The other lady is in rather better circumstances. On one of the bushwhackers found next day they found some $514.80; this was divided before I arrived at Laclede between the ladies who had lost their husbands, by vote of soldiers and citizens. Those same men are prowling about in this county, and we cannot catch them while they are so well supplied with friends who feed them and keep them posted. I know many who do this, but the evidence is not reliable in Missouri as it comes through a negro source. Those men which our men visited in the edge of Livingston were all noted rebels, and Lieutenant-Colonel Swain knows them to be so, although he regards them as law-abiding citizens. I have expected that his friends might be treated in a way not pleasing to them, they have been so long protected by the Government and have tried to make themselves obnoxious to Union men, falling back on their Paw Paw certificates of enrollment, or their oath

of allegiance; all of which they think gives them a license to abuse not only the Government but our soldiers. This kind of endurance has ceased to be a virtue, and the soldiers seem determined to handle them without gloves, and not use any superfluous words. I think we must let all rebels know that we appreciate them in the community and treat them as rebels. You will not find a rebel in the country who is not armed with from one to two navy revolvers. How will it answer for me to disarm all rebels in this county? I would like to do so. When I send my men out I tell them to disarm all bad men. No plundering of private property has been allowed by any of our men. This I am assured by reliable and responsible men who were on this scout. My men would not have gone out of the county had they not been deceived by rebels. The men they came near running into, in the edge of Livingston County, were not the men who visited Laclede in the late raid.

I have organized the people of Bucklin, Saint Catherine, and Laclede into companies for self protection, and I have also organized my old original company (Company G) of the Thirty-eighth Regiment, under Lieutenant Woothly, who hold themselves in readiness to come out at any time. I have sent a scout through Chariton County to-day to guard Mr. Corman, sheriff of that county, and other Union men who have been here for some days. They dare not go home unless they can keep organized and on a war footing. They have arms and ammunition for putting themselves partly on a war footing. Rebels are perfectly safe, and in many instances heaping insult upon injury on our men and friends. I am satisfied that those of us who are in the service are occupying very delicate positions, as there are so many copperhead politicians in the community who exaggerate every attempt on our part to restore peace and put down bushwhacking. Rebels that I know tell my men I dare not send to them for forage, as they have friends who will see them through; they meaning copperhead Union men, who are so ready to take up their case in their behalf.

Our men, many of them, have left their homes from fear, to fight for their country, leaving their crops planted and going to ruin, as they know they cannot remain at home safe. Then when they go through the country scouting and find the country full of bushwhackers, and at the same time find rebels attending their farms, enjoying the blessing of their homes and protected by the Government, and they through fear of offending somebody go hungry while they have every reason to believe that this class of men are feeding our enemies and we, through their acts, liable to be killed at any moment, I only wonder that more devilment is not committed by them.

General Fisk, I trust you will excuse this long, uninteresting document, but I felt it my duty to give you an idea of the feelings of our truly loyal men of this section. While none of us would molest and injure the innocent, and in all cases look upon the ignorant with a great deal of charity, yet we can but look upon those who still insist that they are rebel sympathizers with scorn and contempt. We know that it is this class who are now drawing the life blood out of our glorious Union. There are now 40 Union refugees in town who have left their homes and have been dodging from one place to another to save their lives, ready and willing to take their guns if they can do anything, while their rebel neighbors are at home at peace and making money. Some of the best men of this county

are here to-day. I can catch these bushwhackers if they remain here, and can make the rebel sympathizers help to do it, but I must let them know that I regard them as rebels and not as constitutional Union men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. CRANDALL,
Captain, Commanding.

General CLINTON B. FISK, *Comdg. District of North Missouri.*

No. 3.

Report of Lieut. Joseph M. Brown, Eighteenth Missouri Infantry.

LACLEDE, MO., *June* 22, 1864.

GENERAL: I send you this report by Col. I. V. Pratt, being here on recruiting service by the order of Major-General Sherman. I was in the town on the 18th day of this month when the bushwhackers sacked this place. I was in the town hall at the time of attack; marched out upon the public square where all the citizens were under guard. The bushwhackers killed 2 of the best citizens of this place, Jonathan H. Jones, an attorney in this town, and David M. Crowder, a discharged soldier of the First Missouri State Militia, one of the best of citizens. The losses of our merchants are, as near as can be ascertained, as follows: John F. Pershing, $811 in money and goods; Praty & Clarkson, $1,277 in money and goods; Thomas Spencer, $587, mostly all money; J. J. Friend, $445, watches and jewelry; John A. Riggen, $220, a fine mare, revolver, &c.; L. Seymore, $110, money and merchandise; J. L. Reynolds, groceries, $24; Samuel Moore, $100, groceries and liquors; J. M. Brown, fine silver watch, $40; Preston O'Neil, a fine mare, saddle, and bridle, $200.

This is all that I know of at this time. David M. Crowder shot and mortally wounded 1 bushwhacker, by the name of Jim Nave, whom the captain of the thieves sent westward in a hack, but did not make his escape, for a train coming in from Brookfield with some soldiers, they ran the engine, with a few men upon the tender, and overtook the hack, fired upon it, killing Nave and wounding 4 others, 1 of whom was overtaken and shot, making 2 of the gang that lost their lives and 2 more wounded. The man that was pressed to drive the hack was shot through the lungs. The captain is said to be Holtzclaw, of Howard County, in this State, and he made the citizens a short speech in which he said that he visited Laclede for the purpose of hanging some abolitionists, and that if any of his Southern friends were abused, or that any of his men were hurt or killed, or that he was pursued, he would deal with them severely, killing two for one. He also said that he was well posted and knew all that was going on in town and around the country. Now every man in this community has taken the oath and professes that he is loyal to the core, yet this same band is not far from this place at this time, as 1 or 2 are seen at a time every day; but by the time one gets to where they were seen they cannot be found. I have organized the citizens into a company for home defense, but they want ammunition and arms to make any such movement as will benefit the community. Colonel Pratt will give you the details if necessary.

JOSEPH M. BROWN,
First Lieut., Eighteenth Infantry, Missouri Veteran Vols.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS, *Comdg. Dept. of the Missouri.*

JUNE 18–20, 1864.—Scout from Kansas City, Mo.

Report of Col. James H. Ford, Second Colorado Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND COLORADO CAVALRY,
Kansas City, Mo., July 12, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make to the general commanding the following report of a scout made by me on the 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st June, 1864: On the morning of the 17th of June Col. Thomas Moonlight, of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, arrived at Pleasant Hill with four companies. Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, Fifteenth Kansas Cavalry, and Major Pritchard, of my regiment, were already on a scout in the vicinity of the Little Blue. Colonel Moonlight sent three companies as you directed, and I sent a special messenger to give your instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt, which messenger, however, failed to find him. At 2 a. m. 18th, I started with all the mounted men of Companies I, K, and M of my regiment, accompanied by Colonel Moonlight, with one company of his battalion, numbering in all about 200 men. Arrived at Lone Jack by daylight. I then sent Lieutenant Stanton with Company K in a northwesterly direction. A short distance to the east I sent the Kansas company in a northerly course and about a mile farther east I took a north course with the remainder of the battalion, with the exception of Captain Moses, who I directed with his company (M) from this place to go to the east and visit a suspicious locality. We scouted on for a number of miles without seeing many signs, until, on emerging at the foot of Round Prairie, the advance ran into 1 or 2 guerrillas at a house; while chasing them, another party of 12 or 15 came down the prairie toward thick brush. Captain Moses coming up at this time with his company, fought them just as they were getting into the edge of the timber, and thinks several must have been wounded. None of our men or horses were hurt. After resting our horses some little time, we still continued in a northerly direction, when, coming through thick timber and brush to the edge of a prairie, and thinking that men were visible at a certain house, I sent Captain Moses with his company around to the right, and Lieutenant Rizer with his company (18 men) to the left. Lieutenant Rizer ran into and completely surprised a party of about 40, chasing them to the timber, but was not strong enough to pursue them farther. He thinks he must have wounded some. Soon after the Kansas company came in and reported they had seen about 25 guerrillas, but at a great distance, and they immediately left. We continued scouting during the whole day, several times detaching parties to the right and left. We stopped to rest and grazed the horses twice during the day, and a little before sundown reached Gauley Robinson's place, about 25 miles east-northeast from Independence. Distance traveled from Pleasant Hill about 50 miles. Lieutenant Stanton joined the main command about 5 p. m., but had seen nothing.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt and Major Pritchard came in with their command about dusk. They reported having scouted the Little Blue country most thoroughly, but had seen scarcely any signs at all. June 19, this morning I sent Colonel Moonlight and Lieutenant-Colonel Hoyt with the Kansas troops through the brush to Hickman Mills. They started about 5 a. m. Lieutenant Stanton, with Company K, I sent at the same time to Pleasant Hill with instructions to

scout thoroughly the brush. He afterwards reported that he saw no bushwhackers, and scarcely any fresh signs. With the rest of my command and Major Pritchard's force I started west for Independence, scouting as I went, and detaching large parties to the right and left. Reached Independence about noon. I then ordered Major Pritchard with his command to Raytown, and Captain Moses with his company (M) on the next day to scout the Little Blue from Blue Springs to the Pleasant Hill road, to reach Pleasant Hill that night. He afterwards reported no guerrillas in that section of country. I went with Lieutenant Rizer's company (I) to Kansas City same evening. June 20, went to Raytown with Company I and 20 men of Company E, scouting the Big Blue. June 21, started for Pleasant Hill through the Little Blue country; reached there 3 p. m. The distance traveled by main command, 130 miles.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. FORD,
Colonel Second Colorado Cavalry.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District Central Mo.

JUNE 19, 1864.—Affair at Bayou Grossetete, La.

Report of Brig. Gen. William H. Emory, U. S. Army, commanding Nineteenth Army Corps, &c.

HDQRS. NINETEENTH ARMY CORPS AND U. S. FORCES,
Morganza, La., June 19, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Colonel Crebs has just returned; captured 5 prisoners, and also captured Richard McCall, one of the parties he was sent after. Drove in about 100 head of cattle and a few horses and mules. I send General Grover with the force to operate on the other side of the river.

W. H. EMORY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. DEWITT CLINTON,
Acting Asst. Adjt. Gen., Div. West Mississippi.

JUNE 19, 1864.—Affair at Eagle Pass, Tex.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. Charles L. Pyron, Second Texas Cavalry.
No. 2.—Capt. James A. Ware, First Texas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Col. Charles L. Pyron, Second Texas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
San Antonio, Tex., June 22, 1864.

SIR: Yesterday evening I received information of an attack by the renegades on Eagle Pass on the morning of the 19th instant. I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of Captain Ware's report

of the fight. I sent forward last night to the assistance of Captain Ware 40 men, under Captain Mitchell, of Benavides' regiment, and am this morning starting 75 more under Lieutenant Smith, Fourth Regiment, Arizona Brigade, these being all the troops at this post with the exception of Captain Gibson's company, which is unarmed.

I would respectfully call the attention of the major-general commanding to the unsettled condition of this western frontier. Complaints are continually being made of highway robbery, horse stealing, &c. Unless a stop is put to it shortly trade will suffer.

While General Slaughter was here a few days ago he spoke of the propriety of my making a campaign north and west of this post as far as the Rio Grande. I will undertake with my regiment, if the general commanding will be pleased to order it to me, to drive out of the country all the renegades and bushwhackers and to recover stolen property. I have pretty correct information as to their lurking places and strongholds. Should I receive information of a continued demonstration against Eagle Pass I will proceed to that point, take command, and endeavor to drive the Yankees into the country of their sympathizing neighbors.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. PYRON,

Colonel Second Regiment Texas Cavalry, Comdg. Post.

Col. A. C. Jones,

Chief of Staff, Houston.

No. 2.

Reports of Capt. James A. Ware, First Texas Cavalry.

Headquarters, Fort Duncan, *June* 20, 1864.

Sir: I have to report that for some two or three days past I have received instructions that a strong body of renegades would cross to this side of the Rio Grande and make an attack on this post. On the morning of yesterday, 19th instant, at 1 a. m., a force of renegades, of about 40 in number, attempted to cross the river at a point 3 miles above this place; finding, however, this ford impracticable, they subsequently effected a crossing about 5 miles higher up and immediately commenced a march on this place, receiving a check from the pickets. They retired to a position 6 miles from here and unfurling the United States flag received a considerable augmentation to their numbers from the Mexican side of the river during the day. Having at my disposal for the defense of the post but 34 men, and about half of them unprovided with arms, I called into service for the occasion Captain Stone's home guard company, commanded by Lieutenant Burke, receiving thus a re-enforcement in numbers, but badly armed, having but about twenty-five arms in the company of all kinds. I placed in the hospital building of the post a detachment of Captain Pickerell's company of 25 men, a detachment of 6 men well armed in the quartermaster's store-house, a portion of which had been used as a small-pox hospital. Captain Stone's company I placed to guard the custom-house and business houses of the city, placing pickets north of the city, and a strong guard, under the command of Captain McFadden, in the direction

of the enemy. My force was too weak to enable me to picket properly, but to meet the same end I ordered all men to sleep at their posts on their arms. About 1 a. m. the attack was made by a force numbering, from the best information at my disposal, from 80 to 100 men, on the garrison, and on Captain Pickerell's company, who were compelled to abandon the house, after defending it with a gallantry that is fully attested by the marks of the contest on the doors and windows and walls of the house, and the loss of 5 men severely wounded. I regret to state that his company lost their horses and nine guns, to us a priceless loss. At this point I collected a few stragglers of the garrison and made preparations to defend the quartermaster's building. The enemy, however, marched to the attack of the town and were repulsed, the streets having been barricaded with cotton, and the attack being weakened in spirit by the desperate resistance at the hospital. The enemy, after stripping their prisoners of arms and valuables, retired. I cannot commend too highly the gallantry displayed by Captain Pickerell and his company in the defense of the hospital and subsequent conduct in connection with the home-guard company.

In attempting to communicate with the forces in the town, I, in company with Mr. Woodward, a clerk of Major Russell, after the repulse in town, fell into the hands of the enemy, from whom I succeeded in making my escape. They released the balance of the prisoners upon retiring. They are still receiving re-enforcements and threaten us yet more seriously, and I regret to have to state that the conduct of the Mexican officers has been decidedly unfriendly in this emergency. They have permitted this force to form on their territory, and have rejected my request for the loan of a few stand of arms to repel them. They have refused to let our citizens and friends in Piedras Negras cross the river to come to our assistance. I have represented to headquarters frequently the necessity of placing a proper garrison at this post, and must conclude that they have not the troops to furnish, or some attention would have been paid to my request. During the period of a few hours of my separation from the command, consequent upon my capture, Captain McFadden made more efficient arrangements, aided by General E. B. Nichols and other citizens, to provide against any further ill consequences of another attack.

In haste and with respect, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. WARE,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Lieut. BART J. DEWITT,
Post Adjutant, San Antonio.

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EAGLE PASS, *June* 24, 1864.

DEAR COLONEL: On Sunday night last I was attacked by about 80 renegades. Having previously been told that knowing the weakness of my garrison they would make the attack, I had called out the home guard for duty in the town and made them sleep on their arms. I posted Pickerell's company in the hospital building and ordered them to sleep on their arms. I sent a patrol of 15 men, with instructions to patrol the country in the direction of the enemy at a distance of not over 1 to 2 miles from the town. A patrol was

also put out below the town. I posted also a detachment of a few men in the commissary building, the strongest building in the garrison. I had been informed that they numbered from 35 to 40. They eluded the vigilance of my patrol, passing by them, and from the manner in which they entered the garrison I am satisfied that they were led into it by a traitor. They made an immediate attack on Pickerell without halting a moment to reconnoiter, and drove him out without being for a moment checked by his fire, which was reserved until they were close up. When the first shot was fired I started with 4 men, who were with me, to Pickerell's assistance, but the house was carried so quickly that it was impossible to render him assistance. I called in the guard from the guard-house and collected several of the stragglers and placed them in the commissary building, and sent orders for the home guard to engage them from the arroya. Awaiting their attack, or the further attack of the enemy on the garrison, I heard a few shots fired from the town and then much shouting, but whether from the enemy or from our own men I could not tell, and sent again to learn the reason of my not being supported and what had occurred. Neither of my couriers returning, I grew uneasy about what was transpiring in town, and determined to ascertain in person, and for that purpose took with me young Woodward and attempted a reconnaissance of the enemy's position and operations, and near the hospital, deceived by the voice of one of the enemy, was captured by the guard they had left at the hospital. Learning there from several of our own men, who had been taken prisoners, that they had taken the town without a shot in its defense, and seeing an opportunity of escape, I availed myself of it and reached the little garrison at the commissary. Here I waited an attack until just before daylight, when learning nothing to contradict the statement that they had taken the town, and considering a useless sacrifice of my small detachment to await an attack by daylight, as I was out of the reach of any re-enforcements, I withdrew my men from the garrison, and sent across to Piedras Negras for the purpose of collecting refugees from the town and garrison. In a short time I learned that the town was still held by the home guard, and after a slight demonstration the enemy had returned without doing any injury to property or burning any cotton.

It was the intention of the enemy to collect a large force of renegades under U. S. officers in the vicinity of this point last Thursday. This plan has been made for months. They expected to assemble from 700 to 800 men, but succeeded only in getting together 150, and I think have now abandoned the attempt.

After the attack on Sunday night they received accession of numbers from Mexico. The citizens from both sides of the river rallied to the defense of the place and the cotton, and on Tuesday night the enemy made another demonstration against the town, not, however, numbering over 50 men. We had some skirmishing without results on the outskirts of the town. Hudson's mounted company having come in in the night, I sent them, with all the men I could mount, to pursue them. They were about 4 miles behind them when last heard from.

The larger portion of the renegade force was organized and marched from the Mexican side of the river. The authorities have taken no effective means of arresting re-enforcements to the renegades, but have stopped our citizens from crossing to our assistance. My garrison in the hospital building was badly armed, many of the

men being entirely without arms, the arms for Pickerell's company having been sent to Laredo. In the engagement of Sunday night Captain Pickerell lost several of his horses and 4 men severely wounded. Of the enemy 1 was killed and 6 wounded. I regret this occurrence, though I could not have made arrangements, in view of my numbers and information, to have avoided a surprise more efficient than those adopted. If I had—cannot flatter myself that the result would have been different—and had my instructions been strictly executed we might have gained earlier intelligence of their approach. I have constantly notified the authorities at headquarters that my force was entirely inadequate for the protection of the post.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. WARE.

Col. JOHN S. FORD.

JUNE 19, 1864.—Skirmish at Hahn's Farm, near Waldron, Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. John M. Thayer, U. S. Army, commanding District of the Frontier.

No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Charles S. Clark, Ninth Kansas Cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. John M. Thayer, U. S. Army, commanding District of the Frontier.

HDQRS. DIST. OF THE FRONTIER, DEPT. OF ARK.,
Fort Smith, June 22, 1864.

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions by telegraph, directing me to send out a cavalry force to co-operate with a similar force from Little Rock to be sent into Polk County, Ark., I have the honor to report that on the 17th instant I sent Lieutenant-Colonel Clark, Ninth Kansas, with 250 cavalry. Colonel Clark proceeded some distance southwest of Waldron, where he met Wells' battalion of Texas cavalry (numbering about 500), surprised the rebel force, routed them, killing several, capturing 5 prisoners, 40 horses, 80 muskets, and over 100 saddles. His horses giving out from the fact that they are in a bad condition, quite weak, having had no grain, and his men having lost nearly all their subsistence while charging the enemy, he returned to this place on the 21st instant, having failed to make a junction with forces sent out from Little Rock.

Respectfully,

JOHN M. THAYER,
Brigadier-General.

Lieut. Col. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Little Rock, Ark.

No. 2.

Report of Lieut. Col. Charles S. Clark, Ninth Kansas Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH KANSAS CAVALRY,
Camp Thayer, Ark., June 22, 1864.

MAJOR: In compliance with instructions from the general commanding, I have the honor to submit the following report: Pursuant

to orders from the Third Brigade headquarters, detachments from the Sixth Kansas Cavalry (50 men), Ninth Kansas Cavalry (150 men), and the Fourteenth Kansas Cavalry (50 men), total, 250 men, left camp on the 17th instant for a scout in the direction of Dallas, Polk County, Ark. In the afternoon of the 18th, hearing of rebel troops at Hahn's farm, south of west of Waldron, said to be 300 to 400 strong, and others said to be 500 to 600 strong, 8 miles south of Waldron, in Scott County, the last being on our line of march, and not willing to leave the rebels at Hahn's farm undisturbed, the command was turned off the road to Waldron to the Lookout Gap road. After marching within 4 miles of Hahn's farm we camped for the night. At 9 a. m. of the 19th, being in charging distance, the detachments were ordered as follows: The Sixth to take the advance, under Lieut. John M. Defriese, and charge the pickets, run them to camp, and charge that also. The Ninth, under Captains Coleman and Flesher, to follow the Sixth and finish the work the Sixth would begin. The Fourteenth was held in reserve under Capt. William N. Bixby. Right well did each perform his duty. The Sixth charged in fine style, followed by Captains Coleman and Flesher, striking the rebel line about center, scattering the rebels in every direction. The camp was cleared so quick I could hardly tell how it was done. A few rebels tried to make a stand, but they were pressed so close they could not. It was a perfect stampede. After chasing them 2½ miles, the troops were recalled, and we were left in quiet possession of 5 dead rebels, 3 prisoners, 40 horses, saddles, &c., about 80 stand of arms, consisting of shotguns, Enfield rifles, &c., and their camp equipage and subsistence and books and papers. The arms, saddles, and camp equipage were destroyed. No casualties on our side. After inspecting the horses I found them quite exhausted, and not in condition to go farther. I decided to return to camp at Fort Smith, where we arrived on the 21st instant.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. CLARK,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Maj. T. J. ANDERSON, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

JUNE 19–25, 1864.—Scout from Mount Vernon, Mo.

Report of Col. John D. Allen, Seventh Provisional Missouri Enrolled Militia.

HDQRS. 7TH PROV. REGT., ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA,
Mount Vernon, Mo., June 26, 1864.

LIEUTENANT: I had been constantly receiving communications from different officers and persons in regard to the number of rebels southwest, west, and northwest, estimating them to be in considerable force in all that section of country. Not believing them to be in such force as represented, I started on the 19th instant to ascertain their numbers and also their whereabouts. On the 20th, I left Marionville with 18 men from Company H, scouted the country to Newtonia, and found no trace of the enemy. On the 21st, left Newtonia for Carthage with 30 more men from Companies G and K,

scouting the country thoroughly to Carthage. Found some trails of rebels on Jones' Creek, followed the trail into the woods, found their camp. They had discovered us and had left some ten or fifteen minutes before us, from all appearances separated so that we could not follow them. I went to Carthage, intending to scout west, but met with Captain Carpenter, of Third Wisconsin, who had just returned from west, and reported none in that direction. I was determined to find them if they were south of the Osage River, so on the morning of the 22d, with 75 men, I started in the direction of Lamar, Barton County, scouting the country thoroughly, and arrived at Lamar at dark, making no discovery. On the morning of the 23d, I set out again, breasting a skirt of timber south of Lamar. I found a trail of some 6 or 8. I sent Captain Roberts with 9 others in pursuit. I then went with 65 men into Horse Creek, and down said creek some 20 miles before making any discoveries. We there came in sight of some 4 or 5. We chased them about 5 miles, got one of their horses, bridle and saddle. They ran into the brush; followed on some 3 or 4 miles farther, and my scouts reported a considerable number—at least 150 or 200. They were in the brush; had their sharpshooters in the prairie. When my advance would advance upon them they would fall back into the timber. When they would fall back the rebels would advance into the prairie again. I discovered they intended to draw me into the brush if possible. I did not feel disposed to charge them, as they had at least three to one. I then concluded I would draw them out. I fell back behind a ridge in the prairie, and took a position near the top of the ridge behind some fence and houses, and in a few moments my scouts reported them marching onto us. Just at that moment Captain Carpenter arrived. I ordered him into line on my right. My men already being in line we charged them, but as soon as they saw us coming they fled. We pursued them about 1 mile. I then made a flank movement to the left in order to get in their rear and halted, Captain Carpenter in front.

I had just entered the brush when some 8 or 10 made their appearance in our rear. The scouts reporting that the enemy was surrounding us, I withdrew from the brush and rejoined Carpenter, when we ascertained that it was only to draw us off. I then turned my course for the brush again, but by this time they were all gone, and it dark, so we had to withdraw from the chase. We camped on the prairie and next morning we could not find a rebel in the country. We had been out of rations for twenty-four hours; we each started for quarters.

I found nothing more on my route to Greenfield, at which place I arrived at 5 p. m. of the 24th instant, at which place, through the kindness of Captain Moore, of the Sixth Missouri State Militia, I got plenty of commissaries for men, which was thankfully received. I only had the 18 men of Company H with me. I had during the day sent the others to their respective commands. I arrived at headquarters at Mount Vernon on the evening of the 25th, all well, but men and horses very tired.

I am, lieutenant, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. ALLEN,
Col., Comdg. Seventh Prov. Regt., Enrolled Missouri Militia.

Lieut. W. D. HUBBARD,
Act. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Springfield, Mo.

JUNE 20–23, 1864.—Scouts from Lewisburg, Ark.

Report of Col. Abraham H. Ryan, Third Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

LEWISBURG, *June* 23, 1864.

Lieutenant Carr returned at noon from scout to Norristown, Dover, Glass Village, &c. After leaving Dover he detached sergeant and 10 men and sent them back to that place. They run onto 20 of Jackaway's gang and chased them to the hills, where they escaped. Lieutenant Carr reports the country he passed through comparatively quiet. A scout of 4 men of Company D killed 2 of Hill's gang, who have been burning our boats between Galley Rock and Norristown. They captured a so-called Union man who has been in the habit of feeding bushwhackers; also captured 5 horses.

A. H. RYAN,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

Capt. A. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 20–24, 1864.—Scout from Cassville, Mo., to Cross Hollow, &c., Ark.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).
No. 2.—Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

No. 1.

Report of Lieut. Col. Hugh Cameron, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

HEADQUARTERS POST,
Cassville, June 26, 1864.

GENERAL: I have the honor to send herewith report of James L. Powell, captain Company F, Second Arkansas Cavalry, and the following report: On the evening of the 23d, I was informed by citizens that the Todd family was making a demonstration in the neighborhood below, near the edge of Stone County, on Flat Creek. I sent with the citizens 4 enlisted men of Company I, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Benjamin F. Lee, John B. Jones, Alexander L. Harris, and Andrew J. Chanceller), with instructions to take the Todds, it being represented that there were only 2 of them, deserters from the First Arkansas Cavalry. My men arrived some time before daylight, June 24, and waited for the Todds to come to their breakfast, concealing themselves in the brush near the house. The Todds came and gained the house before my boys could arrest them. They, however, divided into two squads, 4 soldiers in one and 1 soldier and 3 citizens in the other, the entire force being made up of 4 of the Second Arkansas Cavalry, 1 of the First Arkansas Cavalry, and 3 citizens, and moved up on different sides of the house. My men were refused admittance and fired upon from the house. They returned the fire promptly through the cracks. Result: Killed, Alexander L. Harris, private Company I, Second Arkansas Cavalry, and wounded, the 3 Todds, father and 2 sons. The case was promptly reported, and I sent an ambulance after the dead and wounded, with proper escort. In the mean time Lieutenant Garner, Company B,

Second Arkansas Cavalry, returning from Cassville to Forsyth with some 12 or 16 men, went by, entered the house, and killed the 3 wounded Todds. My escort returned, reporting these facts and bringing the body of Harris. The citizens in the vicinity had taken it in hand to bury the Todds.

I have the honor to be, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH CAMERON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Second Arkansas Cav., Comdg. Post.

Brig. Gen. J. B. SANBORN,
Commanding District of Southwest Missouri.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. James L. Powell, Second Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

CASSVILLE, MO., *June* 25, 1864.

COLONEL: In pursuance to Orders, No. 13, dated June 20, 1864, headquarters Post Cassville, Cassville, Mo., I proceeded with the men under my command as far as 4 miles beyond Sugar Creek, where I found a guard of 8 rebels. I proceeded on to Cross Hollow, where I discovered a trail of the rebels, supposed to be about 30 strong. I thought it best to go on to Fayetteville, Ark., on account of safety for the train, then taking my squad of cavalry and marching in direction of Bentonville, Ark., 12 miles. During the night I learned that the rebel Captain Ingraham had been waylaying the road for the train that had passed the day before, aiming to take it, but found them too strong for him; he reported them 100 strong and the telegraph repairer along with the train.

The morning of the 23d, I went to try to catch Charles Nail, a deserter from my company, who was started through with a dispatch for Major Hackett, but carried it to Major Brown, of the rebel army, in Benton County, Ark. I saw his wife. She did not deny his going to Brown. Then perusing the country through the woods, I found a camp of 3 or 4 rebels; killed 1 of them. Then turning toward the train on the Wire road, finding more or less signs on the roads and through the woods at Dickens' Mill, on Osage Creek, I took 1 prisoner. On arriving near Walnut Springs, seeing a great deal of sign of rebels, on making inquiry of the prisoner I learned there was to be a collection of Brown's men there that day. I dismounted my men and attacked them (though they would not fight us), wounding 2 or 3 and 2 or 3 horses, and taking 2 horses, 1 gun, some Federal overcoats and blankets, and their provisions. Then I marched in direction of Little Sugar Creek, on the Wire road, by the way of Osage Springs, near Bentonville, where I learned that Captain Ingraham was watching all the trains that passed the road, and says he intends to take one of those trains. Then I made my way to the train where it was camped. There I remained until morning without any interruption. I then moved out with the train to Cassville, finding the telegraph wire cut near Elk Horn. Arrived at Cassville on the evening of the 24th June, 1864.

JAMES L. POWELL,
Captain, Commanding Scout.

Lieut. Col. H. CAMERON,
Commanding Post, Cassville.

JUNE 20-29, 1864.—Operations on the White River, Ark.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS.

June 22, 1864.—Skirmish at White River Station.
24, 1864.—Capture of the U. S. Steamer Queen City.
24-25, 1864.—Engagement between U. S. Steamers Fawn, Naumkeag, and Tyler and Shelby's forces.
26-28, 1864.—Skirmish near Clarendon (26th) and pursuit of Confederates to Bayou De View.

REPORTS.*

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.
No. 2.—Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.
No. 3.—Capt. Joseph R. C. Hunter, Twelfth Iowa Infantry.
No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army.
No. 5.—Lieut. Col. Ezra M. Beardsley, One hundred and twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry.
No. 6.—Lieut. Commander S. Ledyard Phelps, U. S. Navy.
No. 7.—Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding forces of Northern Arkansas, of operations June 19-30.†

No. 1.

Report of Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele, U. S. Army, commanding Department of Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS,
Little Rock, June 28, 1864.

GENERAL: The rebels are not threatening Missouri. Shelby, joined by McCray, surprised gun-boat No. 26 and captured it at Clarendon 3 a. m. on the 24th instant. Captain Bache, with the Tyler and another gun-boat from Devall's Bluff, attacked Shelby, and in half an hour drove him back, recapturing the guns, ammunition, wounded men, clothing, &c. I sent General Carr, with something over 3,000 infantry and cavalry and a battery, in pursuit of Shelby. He landed his command at Clarendon without interruption, and came upon the rebel pickets soon. The last heard from Carr, on the 25th, p. m., he was skirmishing with the enemy, having lost 12 men wounded. Shelby had two 12-pounder smooth-bore and two 10-pounder rifled guns. His force had not been fully developed. I proposed in due time to A. J. Smith and Washburn to co-operate with me against Shelby on the north side of White River, but they declined, for reasons stated. We could have captured his entire force. By sending a force in behind him from Augusta, he might now be cut off, but I am threatened by a large force in front, and cannot weaken the line of the Arkansas any further with safety. Information derived from various sources makes it almost certain that the enemy is making a forward movement in large force. It is reported that Kirby Smith is advancing with from 35,000 to 40,000 troops to attack Little

*For reports of Lieut. Commander George M. Bache, Acting Masters John R. Grace and John Rogers, and Actg. Asst. Surg. Lewis Westfall, U. S. Navy, see Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

†See also Shelby's report, pp. 928-930.

Rock. Our reconnoitering parties report Price crossing the Saline with 15,000 men and a large amount of artillery. One of our spies heard a letter from a rebel officer read, in which it was stated that they were concentrating to fall upon Little Rock or Pine Bluff. Colonel Clayton, an excellent officer, commanding at Pine Bluff, telegraphs that he thinks they will invest that place. Another plan is that their troops attacking our communications will draw off the troops from Little Rock so that it can be taken. If reports be true they have forces enough to threaten both places, while they throw troops across the Arkansas and destroy the railroad and depots. They certainly intend a decisive movement. Cooper is reported moving toward Dardanelle with 5,000 men, with orders to make a junction with Shelby. I have not sufficient force to hold the line of the Arkansas and at the same time operate against those detachments of the enemy. The re-enforcements ordered to report to me have been diverted. Several regiments were stopped at Memphis, and one I believe is at Port Hudson. One-tenth of the troops in this department are sick. Transportation is being fitted up rapidly. The mules sent from Saint Louis are reported mostly under two years old and unfit for service. Mules can be had from the plantations on the Mississippi in about twenty days. We have supplies of all kinds for two or three months. I sent you statement of subsistence stores. You will see from return the number of troops; they are necessarily scattered, it being required to hold certain points. We must have the pontoon bridge before moving south.

Very respectfully,

F. STEELE,
Major-General.

Maj. Gen. E. R. S. CANBY,
Commanding Division of the West Mississippi.

No. 2.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Napoleon B. Buford, U. S. Army, commanding District of Eastern Arkansas.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., June 27, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 22d instant the little garrison of 50 men, commanded by Capt. J. R. C. Hunter, of the Twelfth Iowa Infantry, at the mouth of White River was attacked by the enemy, 300 strong, about daybreak, who had crossed the Arkansas River in small boats in the night, and, after an action of thirty minutes, was handsomely repulsed, with a loss to us of 1 killed and 4 wounded. The enemy's loss was about 30 killed and wounded; 5 of the latter, 1 an officer, falling into our hands. The little garrison was slightly intrenched in a hastily erected stockade. The gun-boat Lexington* was the only one present. She opened fire on the enemy in the woods after the repulse. Our force was too small to pursue, and as there was but one gun-boat, the orders of her commander forbade her leaving the station and preventing the enemy retreating across the Arkansas River. Captain Hunter and his little garrison deserve the highest credit. As soon as I was informed of the above facts, Capt. S. L.

* Acting Ensign Henry Booby, U. S. Navy, commanding.

Phelps, U. S. Navy, being at Helena at the time, and with his assistance, I embarked 800 troops on my two ferry-boats and his gun-boat Hastings, and proceeded to the mouth of White River, and ascended White River to the Cut-off, hoping the enemy had not left the island; thence to the Arkansas River and up it 10 miles, where I ascertained the attacking force was commanded by Colonel Lawther, Tenth Missouri Cavalry, C. S. Army, and that they had crossed back on the 22d. My information led me to believe that General Marmaduke's force was between me and the post of Arkansas, and that I was not strong enough to successfully attack him if I could find him. Captain Phelps objected to going farther up the river, as the banks of the river were such that the enemy, if in force equal to ours, could readily get out of our way, or attack us exposed in our crowded small-boats. I returned to the mouth of White River, and issued the inclosed order, which strikes at the root of the evil. This order is simply enforcing principles to which I have before called your attention.*

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. F. STEELE,
Commanding Department of Arkansas.

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HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN ARKANSAS,
Helena, Ark., June 29, 1864.

SIR: General Shelby, C. S. Army, is in force at Clarendon, 51 miles from here, on the east side of White River.

On the 24th instant he captured the gun-boat No. 26 (Queen City), commanded by Captain Hickey, and after removing her nine guns and all her ammunition and stores, destroyed her. He is now fortifying Clarendon, and has successfully blockaded White River, and cut General Steele's line of communication both by land and water. Col. A. S. Dobbin, commanding a cavalry brigade, variously estimated at from 1,000 to 2,000 men, is west of Big Creek, a deep and narrow stream, 18 miles from here, on the Clarendon road. He has 20 seamen, captured from the Queen City, whom he offered to exchange with me. Shelby's force is estimated at from 2,500 to 3,000. All the country is hostile. The conscription will take every able-bodied man in the district. I have but 289 cavalry for the field. I have no light artillery. I have two guns without caissons, manned by black troops. On the 22d instant the enemy, 300 strong, attacked my little garrison of 50 men, commanded by Capt. J. R. C. Hunter, of the Twelfth Iowa Volunteers, in a stockade at the mouth of White River. He killed and wounded 30 of their men, taking 5 of their wounded prisoners, and gallantly repulsed the attack with a loss of 1 killed and 4 wounded. On this information, and that Marmaduke's force was near by, on the south side of the Arkansas River, I took a force of 800 men, and, in co-operation with Capt. S. L. Phelps, U. S. Navy, with one gun-boat, proceeded to the mouth of White River, and up the Arkansas 30 miles, where we learned that Marmaduke, with sixteen pieces of artillery and a considerable force, estimated at 6,000, was within 10 miles of us, on Red Fork Bayou. Not being

* Similar report to Canby.

in force sufficient to attack him, we returned. I have applied to General C. C. Washburn, commanding at Memphis, for re-enforcements of 1,000 good infantry, one regiment of cavalry, and one battery of light artillery. My messenger has just returned with his answer. He has no light artillery (which is for me indispensable), no cavalry, but offers me one regiment of 100-days' men if I need them.

I have sent all the information I have to General Canby, but fear he has gone to New Orleans, and perhaps to communicate with Admiral Farragut near Mobile. My dispatches cannot go forward to General Steele. I therefore judge best to communicate all of the above facts to you. Captain Phelps, U. S. Navy, passed up to-day to obtain an iron-clad to reopen White River, and I have no doubt he will communicate most of the above facts to the Navy Department in advance of this letter.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

N. B. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

No. 3.

Reports of Capt. Joseph R. C. Hunter, Twelfth Iowa Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Mouth of White River, June 22, 1864.

GENERAL: The enemy this morning, 300 strong, attacked us, but we are not theirs. Five of their killed and wounded fell into our hands. One of my men was killed and 3 severely wounded. The enemy consisted of the Tenth Missouri Cavalry and was commanded by Colonel Lawther. They crossed the Arkansas River about midnight, leaving their horses on the opposite side, and marched here in the night, arriving about 4 a. m. They were apparently panic-stricken when they retreated, but I had no men to send in pursuit. It is my candid opinion that we killed and wounded fully as many of the enemy as I have men. We do not know that they have left the island, but are prepared for them should they make another attack. You will see the necessity of sending re-enforcements immediately. Two hundred cavalry is the least number that will secure our safety. I do not know that they carried off any of the negroes, as was their evident design. They killed 1. The wounded are being taken care of by the naval surgeon.

Hoping that you will take prompt action in sending re-enforcements, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. R. C. HUNTER,
Captain, Commanding Post.

P. S.—Since writing the above a scout has come in reporting the enemy coming across the Arkansas River in force. I shall do my very best and leave the island as a last resort. The gun-boat did good execution after the rebs left.

J. R. C. HUNTER,
Captain, Commanding Post.

JUNE 23—5 p. m.

A refugee that was captured yesterday has just returned. He reports that the enemy were 600 strong, and that their loss was 24, killed and wounded, including 1 lieutenant, who is now in our hands. I had but 48 effective men in the engagement. The rebels thought we were 1,000 strong. It is my informant's impression that they intend to attack again soon. We must have re-enforcements immediately or leave the island.

Yours, &c.,

J. R. C. HUNTER,
Captain, Commanding.

Brigadier-General BUFORD,
Commanding at Helena.

No. 4.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Eugene A. Carr, U. S. Army.

CLARENDON, *June* 26, 1864.

We did not reach this place till 9 o'clock this morning, owing to Captain Grace reporting the battery still here, and an accident to the Tyler, which partially disabled her. Found only a squad in Clarendon, but upon throwing out pickets found the enemy in the direction of Pikeville, a small place 1½ miles from Clarendon, where the Helena and Cotton Plant roads fork. Advanced and drove him away and now occupy Pikeville, the enemy in the woods beyond, and Colonel Graves has just reported that his skirmishers cannot drive him out, and that his battery is there, but I expect as soon as we advance again he will leave as before.

The men are very much exhausted, being unused to skirmishing and the heat being very oppressive, and after fixing the enemy on the Cotton Plant road, I ordered a halt to rest, reorganize the skirmish line, and write this report.

I propose to move on this afternoon and push him with all my force, but can plainly see that he is practicing his old tricks, and that only some favorable accident will enable me to take his guns. He has four guns, but how strong he is in number of men I cannot say. I would be glad to have a force sent to Augusta to march out and cut him off. There are two battalions of cavalry at Devall's Bluff. My own force is 1,000 less than I anticipated. I have only 750 mounted men and the footmen are unused to skirmishing or marching. I will order Colonel Mizner to issue the 100 horses now on the Kate Hart to dismounted men of Colonel Geiger's regiment and send them to Clarendon by first boat, to follow and join me. They can bring any order the general may wish to send, and I need them very much. Please make it right with the quartermaster's department. The news from Bayou Bartholomew will be given you by Captain Bache. I have no other. From what is said by passengers on the Kate Hart, General A. J. Smith appears to have left Memphis with the intention of opening the road to Corinth, which will occupy all his force. General Buford appears to have gone onto the island at the mouth of White River to defend it. This is from the captain of the Kate Hart, who is confident of its truth. Lieutenant-

Colonel Stephens, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry, was sunstruck to-day just as the skirmishing was commencing. My loss so far is about a dozen wounded, 1 seriously.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Arkansas.

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HEADQUARTERS CLARENDON EXPEDITION,
Camp near Bayou De View Bridge, June 28, 1864.

Shelby is still going north. He made a turn toward the bridge, crossed Caney, and at first made me believe he had crossed, but my cavalry has followed him 8 miles above the bridge, and he is still going and gaining on us. It is impossible to catch him with infantry, and I have only 750 cavalry. He has about 1,500 men and 4 guns. I have captured 2 guns, one of them navy; wounded about 60, killed about 12, and captured 2. Colonel Shanks, First Missouri (rebel) Cavalry, has his leg amputated. My loss, 1 killed, 16 wounded. My infantry has not touched him since the first day, though I have pressed them to the utmost. Many are reported sunstruck; their shoes are many of them soaked to pieces going through mud and swamps, and some of them left their rations on the first battle-field. Neither my cavalry nor artillery horses have had a feed of grain since we started, and some of the artillery are unshod. Finding it impossible to catch him, and fearing to be drawn too far north, I have determined to return, and expect to be at Clarendon to-morrow, 29th, before noon. Please send boats for the troops with rations and forage.

2.15 *p. m.*—Shelby may cross the bayou still farther up, and may go on north; in any case, he should be attacked from Missouri. My cavalry will keep up the pursuit as long as they will let them, probably all day to-day, and then come in to Clarendon.

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Col. W. D. GREEN,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of Arkansas.

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DEVALL'S BLUFF, ARK.,
June 29, 1864—8.20 p. m.

COLONEL: I have just arrived. My troops are en route and will arrive here in the course of the night, as the boats can get in. Do you wish any of my troops to come to Little Rock; if so, what part? Please answer this to-night, as they are loading the cars with stores. My cavalry left a point 8 miles above Bayou De View bridge last night at 12 o'clock. Shelby passed there yesterday morning; had abandoned a wagon, sponge staff, and some harness. That point is fully 40 miles from Clarendon. His artillery had not yet crossed the bayou, but some of his troops had. Tyler, Platte Valley, and Gladiator, with bearer of dispatches, left Clarendon at 5 o'clock this morning for down river. Emma No. 2 is to leave here for Memphis in an hour. What news?

E. A. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

Col. W. D. GREEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 5.

Report of Lieut.Col. Ezra M. Beardsley, One hundred and twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry.

HDQRS. 126TH REGT. ILLINOIS VOL. INFANTRY,
Devall's Bluff, Ark., July 10, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the participation of the battalion of the One hundred twenty-sixth Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers, composed of Companies A, B, D, E, F, G, H, and I, which I commanded, in the skirmish at Clarendon, Ark., Sunday, June 26, 1864, while accompanying the expedition of Brig. Gen. E. A. Carr, to dislodge a rebel force under Shelby: The battalion debarked from the transport Platte Valley at Clarendon, Ark. (on White River), at 8.30 a. m., June 26, which I immediately formed, and after waiting a short time (apparently for the debarkation of the light battery), upon receiving orders from Colonel Graves, chief of infantry, I marched it by the left flank, preceded by the battalion of the Fifty-fourth Regiment Illinois Veteran Infantry Volunteers, and immediately succeeded by the six-gun battery (D), Second Regiment Missouri Artillery Volunteers, and after moving in a northeasterly direction about three-fourths of a mile again came into line of battle in the same relative order, within supporting distance of a force of cavalry engaging the enemy's skirmishers, which had previously been advanced and deployed as skirmishers to ascertain and feel his position. Upon receiving orders, I immediately deployed Company E, Capt. L. W. Beal commanding, covering the front of the battalion in reserve, which was promptly advanced to relieve the cavalry skirmishers of the Eleventh Missouri Volunteers in our front, who then repaired to form upon the left flank, which rested upon the swamp enmargining Bayou Cache (which seemed to regulate the movement). At 10 a. m., or after Company E had been engaged about twenty minutes, Company D was deployed and advanced to re-enforce them upon the skirmish line, when a general advance was ordered of the supporting line, the battalion moving simultaneously, halting at intermitting intervals to successively keep in sustaining distance and give the skirmishers an opportunity to dislodge and force back the enemy. Soon afterward the enemy opened upon our line with a battery of artillery nearly confronting our (central) position, thereby indicating a resolution of arresting our further advance; but our skirmishers, not thus diverted or intimidated, but stimulated with increased vigilance and activity, pressed steadily onward, sustained by a long line of equally gallant and energetic companies among the several battalions and detachments, seconded by a brisk reponse from Captain Schaerff's Battery (D), Second Missouri Artillery, soon convinced our adversaries their attempt to withstand our advance might jeopardize their position or forces, so he seemed thenceforward to contest the position with as much persistence as practicable, with his available skirmish force gradually retiring. At nearly 12 m., upon the right platoon of Company D rejoining the reserve line, I immediately deployed Company A, Lieut. Allen H. Morgan commanding, and advanced it to replace the skirmishers returned and sustain those engaged; but soon after it had arrived upon and re-enforced the skirmish line, the rebel commander, having previously withdrawn most of his baggage, made a precipitate withdrawal of his forces from the front of our skir-

mishers, with too much rapidity for infantry to follow, whereupon, receiving orders to halt in position awaiting developments to be elicited by a cavalry reconnaissance, I recalled the skirmishers to the line of reserve at 12.30, thus ending the participation of my battalion in said engagement. The skirmishers of the battalion advanced under the enemy's fire, driving him nearly 3 miles from the position where we originally formed at about 9.30 a. m., until 12.30, when the engagement ceased, thus occupying three hours.

The officers and men of the entire command seemed animated by a confidence and determination which remained unabated during the engagement. I would especially commend Capt. Lucius W. Beal and the skirmishers under his command from Companies E and D for the efficient manner in which they performed the hazardous task of dislodging and driving a wily enemy, sustained by his artillery and reserves, from his chosen and covert position for a distance of 3 miles in as many hours, while nearly two-thirds of the distance our (Federal) force had to approach them through the open and nearly level fields, which thus gave the assailants no protection.*

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E. M. BEARDSLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., District of Little Rock.

No. 6.

Report of Lieut. Commander S. Ledyard Phelps, U. S. Navy.†

U. S. GUN-BOAT HASTINGS,
Mouth of White River, June 28, 1864.

GENERAL: I wrote to you a very hasty line last night to send up by the New Missouri. My informant in regard to the affair at Clarendon states that on Friday rebel pickets occupied his premises; that the soldiers stated that at early daylight they fired upon the Queen City at close quarters, disabling her; that while taking off her guns, of which they had removed three, with some ammunition, the gun-boats from Devall's Bluff came down and forced them to burn the Queen City. My informant heard the firing at daylight; also when the gun-boats came down from above; also much of that day, and considerable firing occurred on Saturday and Sunday.

There are three of the light gun-boats at the Bluff. Now, not one of them has been below Clarendon since the 24th, when the Queen City was captured.

I buried a sailor found floating in the river. Put these facts together and the case looks bad, especially when we remember Marmaduke's movements, and I have considered it my duty to present the case to you as I see it, believing that thus far the enemy has held good the blockade of the river. There is but one other supposition, which is, that he has made so much of a demonstration against Devall's Bluff that the gun-boats are absolutely required for its defense.

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* List of casualties (omitted) reports 4 wounded.

† See also Phelps' report to Rear-Admiral Porter, Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

I turned back after learning this much, in order to stop transports entering the river, and to get the Lexington up. As soon as the Silver Cloud (No. 28) gets here I shall proceed up to the Bluff, unless I meet with more than I can manage by the way. Two transports are detained here, of course, and until I get positive information none will be permitted to pass us.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. L. PHELPS,
Lieutenant-Commander.

Brig. Gen. N. B. BUFORD,
Commanding District of Helena.

No. 7.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, C. S. Army, commanding forces of Northern Arkansas, of operations June 19–30.

HDQRS. CONFED. FORCES OF NORTHERN ARKANSAS,
June 24, 1864.

COLONEL: Since my last communication, under date of the 13th instant, nothing of particular interest has transpired until to-day.

On the 19th, I moved from my camp on White River, 7 miles below Augusta, and crossed Cache River by 10 o'clock next day. After lying in my camp near that stream until 1 o'clock on the morning of the 20th, I moved as rapidly as the nature of the roads would permit in the direction of Clarendon. I arrived within 2 miles of that place yesterday about 2 p. m. Here I ascertained that there was a gun-boat stationed at Clarendon, guarding the river from that point up to Devall's Bluff. I succeeded in keeping my movements concealed from the enemy, and about 12 o'clock last night moved my brigade into town and took position on the bank of the river a distance of about 200 yards from the boat. I remained quietly in this position until 4 o'clock this morning, when I commenced the attack. The boat stationed at this point was the Queen City (gun-boat No. 26), mounting nine guns and manned by a crew of 65 men. She was clad with iron one and a quarter inches in thickness. After a sharp cannonade of about twenty minutes' duration I was gratified by the sight of a white flag. I ordered them to bring her ashore, which was immediately done with our assistance, as she was so disabled that she could not obey the order without aid from us. Her armament was as follows: Four 32-pounders, four 24-pounders, and one 12-pounder. We removed one 24-pounder and one 12-pounder, when we scuttled and burned her.

In a short time three more gun-boats made their appearance, which we immediately engaged. Two of them succeeded in passing, while the other remained above our battery, and thus subjected us to a cross-fire, which was very harassing. After an engagement of an hour and a half I withdrew my forces to my former camp, some 2 miles from town. After my withdrawal from the river the enemy, with their usual spirit of vandalism, took revenge for the loss of their boat by burning all the private and public buildings in Clarendon which were not protected by my sharpshooters. I purpose moving into town to-night and throwing up temporary earth-works.

By doing so I can hold this point some eight or ten days longer and seriously annoy them in the navigation of this river. I shall keep you well advised of my movements.

Recruiting goes on very well. I do not think I overstep the mark when I say that by July 10 I shall have 4,000 men in camp. They will, however, be poorly and sparsely armed. General Adams writes me from Mississippi County that he has procured 1,000 stand of arms and 100,000 cartridges, which will be ready for issue by July 1. Should he succeed in getting them across the Mississippi River and issue them to these unarmed men, I can soon arm the remainder. It has been raining steadily for the last three weeks, and the whole country is flooded with water and altogether in a much worse condition than on our expedition to Helena last June. Forage there is none, and subsistence very scarce indeed. I send you the latest papers by Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas.

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HDQRS. CONFED. FORCES OF NORTHERN ARKANSAS,
June 29, 1864.

GENERAL: On the 19th instant I took up the line of march for Clarendon and proceeded as rapidly as the nature of the roads would permit until I arrived within 2 miles of that point. Here I learned that the U. S. steamer Queen City (gun-boat No. 26) was stationed there, protecting transports in the navigation of White River to Devall's Bluff. I immediately threw out my pickets and remained there until midnight of the 23d instant, when I moved my whole command into town and took position on the river bank about 100 yards from the boat. About 4 a. m. on the 24th, I opened fire on her and notified her commander of my approach and intentions. After a sharp engagement of about twenty minutes she struck her colors and surrendered with all on board. She was clad with iron 1¼ inches thick, and was manned by a crew of 65 men. Her armament was as follows: Four 32, four 24, and one 12 pounder. I removed one 24 and one 12 pounder, besides some fifty stand of small-arms, a large amount of ammunition and commissary supplies, then scuttled and burned her. In a short time three more gun-boats made their appearance, which we immediately engaged. After a fierce cannonade of an hour and a half two of them succeeded in passing below our battery, while the other remained above, thus subjecting us to a cross-fire, which was very harassing. Finding that I could do them no more damage, I withdrew my command a distance of about 2 miles. Desultory firing continued all day between the gun-boats and my sharpshooters. The Tyler, the most formidable boat in the White River fleet, was so much injured that she was compelled to return to Devall's Bluff that night, and another (the No. 30) was towed off by her comrade (the No. 36), being unable to get off without assistance. Early the next morning they sent down a force of cavalry, infantry, and artillery numbering about 4,000 men. I engaged them at once and succeeded in punishing them severely; but finding they were too strong for me, I with-

drew my forces and took up the line of march for this point. They followed us, occasionally attacking my rear guard, until we reached a place known as the Munn farm, 4 miles from Johnson's bridge, on Bayou De View. Here I awaited their attack, which was soon made, and I succeeded in checking them. They fell back and allowed me to quietly cross the bayou. My horses are in a jaded condition, and I am now in camp at De Gray's, resting and recruiting my stock.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Acting Brigadier-General ADAMS,
Commanding Northern Sub-District of Arkansas.

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HDQRS. CONFED. FORCES OF NORTHERN ARKANSAS,
June 30, 1864.

COLONEL: My last communication of June 24 had scarcely been started to you, and my men had scarcely thrown up a dozen rifle-pits, when eleven transports, convoyed by four gun-boats, landed at Clarendon and put on shore 4,000 troops of all arms and hurried forward to engage me. I immediately took position just without gun-boat range and fought them stubbornly for three hours. Three times they were driven back to the river, and three times they came back again heavily re-enforced. I was unwilling to prolong a contest at odds so great, and gradually withdrew from the field where my men had exhibited such high and heroic courage. They followed all day long, not furiously as I have seen them, but steadily and tenaciously. I fought them every 100 yards for 10 miles, and encamped at dark 16 miles from Clarendon. My ever-tried and trusty scouts soon brought me intelligence that a large body of cavalry had landed at Rock Roe Ferry, on White River, 10 miles below Clarendon, and was marching up a road that immediately gained my rear. I started from camp immediately and passed this road before the Federals got to my line of retreat, thus leaving their whole force behind me, where I could bid them a stern defiance. About 9 a. m. of the 27th, they attacked me again vigorously and followed me 5 or 6 miles. I got tired very soon of their continued onsets, and forming my brigade in a strong position I charged them in turn with two regiments, and drove them back 3 miles in great confusion, they leaving guns, hats, clothing, and other evidences of a panic scattered all along their route. They followed me no longer, and I quietly crossed Bayou De View, and am now resting my tired and terribly jaded horses.

In the heavy and continuous fighting of three days my brigade has lost some of its best and bravest men, who have borne the rugged scars of three wounds—men who would follow me booted and spurred into eternity. The loss of the Federals in the two days' fighting I can safely put down at 250 killed and wounded; 30 will cover my entire loss, but the most of these can never be replaced in this world. Among my wounded I am sorry to mention the brave Col. D. Shanks.*

In the engagement with the three gun-boats—the Tyler, No. 36, and the [No.] 30—the Tyler had to go back for repairs, and the [No.]

* Some irrelevant matter here omitted.

30 so disabled that the [No.] 36 towed her to Devall's Bluff, and the [No.] 36 had eighteen holes through her. In fighting the gun-boats our battery and infantry were on open ground and not 60 yards from the boats, and the skirmishers charged up to the river bank, keeping up a merciless fusilade.

Very respectfully,

JO. O. SHELBY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. J. F. BELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Arkansas.

JUNE 24, 1864.—Affair near Fayetteville, Ark.

Report of Col. M. La Rue Harrison, First Arkansas Cavalry (Union).

FAYETTEVILLE, *June* 29, 1864.

On Friday, 24th instant, Buck Brown, with over 200 men, made a raid on our mule herd, which was grazing 3 miles north of town, scattering the guard, killing 2 soldiers, 1 negro; capturing 1 man, with whole herd, about 240 mules. The moment the alarm was given two columns were started in pursuit, but being mostly dismounted, could not overtake him. He marched 40 miles after capturing the herd, and is reported to be near Maysville. Major Galloway was sent out six days ago to operate with some Indians near the line in driving Brown from the country; Brown took advantage of his absence with most of our mounted [force] and ran around him, coming back this way and capturing the mules.

M. LA RUE HARRISON,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brigadier-General SANBORN.

JUNE 25, 1864.—Skirmish at Rancho Las Rinas, Tex.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, commanding forces on the Rio Grande.

No. 2.—Col. John S. Ford, Second Texas Cavalry, commanding expeditionary forces.

No. 1.

Reports of Maj. Gen. Francis J. Herron, U. S. Army, commanding forces on the Rio Grande.

BROWNSVILLE, TEX., *June* 26, 1864—1 p. m.

GENERAL: My picket on the river 30 miles above this place was attacked by 250 rebels last evening and driven in. Our loss is from 15 to 20 killed and wounded; rebel loss about the same. Captain Temple, First Texas Cavalry, is among the wounded. It seems to

be Ford's intention to keep us in as close quarters as possible, which he can do to a certain extent owing to our want of cavalry or horses to mount infantry. Ford's total force on this side of Ringgold Barracks is about 1,800 men. Persons just arrived at Matamoras from San Antonio state that General Slaughter is there with five regiments and one battery, moving toward Ringgold.

I am sorry to state that the Mexicans on this side of the river are co-operating heartily with Ford. Two Mexican officers are traveling with him. They undoubtedly intend attacking this place shortly.

Respectfully,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. William Dwight,
Chief of Staff, New Orleans.

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Hdqrs. U. S. Forces on the Rio Grande,
Brownsville, Tex., July 2, 1864.

General: Just before the sailing of the last steamer I telegraphed you of the attack upon my pickets by General Ford's advance. Our loss in the affair will amount to 30, of whom 2 were killed, 5 wounded, and the balance captured. The rebel loss was 1 captain (Dunn) and 4 men killed, 1 lieutenant and 11 men wounded. After dispersing this picket Ford pushed forward to within 5 miles of Brownsville, and then attempted to cut off communication with Brazos. This I had provided against, and he failed. After remaining one day he fell back and is now at Edinburg, his pickets being 30 miles above this on the river. His force was well mounted, but indifferently armed. Their intention is to remain at Ringgold Barracks and Edinburg until re-enforcements now on the way arrive. I have just received information that McManus, who has been operating for me at Pedras Negras, organized a company of refugees and captured Eagle Pass. He destroyed a considerable amount of cotton and goods going in, and captured several prominent rebels who have been foremost in hunting down and killing Union men on their way out. When last heard from, he was still holding Eagle Pass, and had started a small force to Fort Inge to capture the small garrison at that place and destroy a large train going in with goods. Ford will undoubtedly send sufficient force to compel him to fall back into Mexico. Nothing specially new from the interior of Texas. Refugees coming out report large amounts of cotton on the way to Mexico. The health of the troops at this point is quite good.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

F. J. HERRON,
Major-General.

Brig. Gen. William Dwight,
Chief of Staff.

No. 2.

Report of Col. John S. Ford, Second Texas Cavalry, commanding expeditionary forces.

Ringgold Barracks, *July* 2, 1864.

General: I have the honor to report that from Young's Rancho I moved to Charles Saltman's Ranch, of Santa Rosa, via Tampacuas,

Tio Cano, and Cotitlo, thence to Como se Llama to form a junction with Lieutenant-Colonel Showalter. We remained at that point a day to dry beef, and selected the best horses, sending the others to Edinburg under Captain Davis. We then moved to the Paso del Gigante, on the Arroyo Colorado, and thence to the road from Rio Grande City to Brownsville, striking it between the Carricitos and the Rucias Ranches, 24 miles from Brownsville, about 10 a. m. on the 25th day June. Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher was sent with a small party to reconnoiter the Carricitos Ranch. Meantime some Mexicans were captured, and previous information of the locality of the enemy verified. I immediately moved upon the rancho of Las Rucias by an obscure trail through the chaparral, and arrived within a few hundred yards of the enemy without being discovered. They had no pickets on the Brownsville end of the road. Captain Dunn was sent forward with a small party to feel of the enemy, and found them much nearer than was anticipated. A brisk fire was opened, and Captain Dunn charged upon largely superior numbers. He fell very soon. Capt. Cristoval Benavides had his horse killed under him, Lieutenant Gardiner, of the artillery, also; Sergeant Cockerel, of Showalter's command, and Hijenio Sanchez, of Benavides' battalion, were killed. Colonel Showalter promptly supported the advance, and carried his men into action gallantly. The Yankees occupied the jacals (Mexican houses), a large brick building, and fought from the cover of a large pile of bricks. They also had the advantage of heavy fences. Very soon after Showalter engaged, Cater's and Benavides' battalions were led in, and the Yankees were driven from all their covers. They fell back to the bank of a large laguna, and maintained a heavy fire, which was replied to, but with little effect. I directed Capt. Refugio Benavides to lead his battalion behind a fence to the bank of the laguna and turn the right flank of the enemy and command the ground in rear of the houses. He misunderstood the order, and moved to the extreme right and attempted to turn their left flank by two charges on horse, which were not effective, because he could not enter the laguna. Showalter and Cater charged them in front on foot, and was joined by Benavides, whose command dismounted. Thirty-six of the enemy surrendered. A good many escaped across the laguna, many of them wounded. Some of them crossed the Rio Grande and secreted themselves in the cane. The force of the enemy was over 100, and consisted of Companies A and C of Davis' renegade cavalry, commanded by Captain Temple. We had the advantage in numbers, having about 250 engaged out of 400, but they had it greatly in arms and position. Their loss was some 20 killed, 10 or 12 wounded, and 36 prisoners. Those wounded in the laguna were drowned. Lieutenant Zoeller is said by the prisoners to have been killed. Captain Temple left early. The prisoners are nearly all renegades, and had been made to believe they would receive no quarter, and hence their desperate resistance.

Our loss was 3 killed and 4 wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Showalter, Capt. Refugio Benavides, and Captain Cater acted well. Capt. Cristoval Benavides, Captain Ferrill, and Lieutenant Gardiner deserve credit for gallant conduct. Lieutenant Coulter, of Capt. Theodore Anderson's company, Cater's battalion, was wounded in the last charge in front of the line. All acted well. Gidding's battalion did not reach the scene of action until the skirmish had almost closed. They were formed and led in, but found but little to do.

We captured 2 wagons and teams complete, 28 horses, which were

turned over to the quartermaster. A number of saddles were taken. They were badly needed by, and left in possession of, the captors; the same with the arms. There were some commissary and quartermaster stores which we could not transport, but little was left. I did not burn them because it was raining very brisk, and I should have had to set fire to them in the houses and thus destroy the ranche. I did not conceive it good policy to set an example for the destruction of private property.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fisher, Major Blucher, Captain Fry, assistant adjutant-general, and Lieutenant Duggan acted on my staff, and performed good service. The enemy have been driven from all their outposts. When we left they had no force this side of the Arroyo Colorado. I moved off leisurely, and waited a day and a half at Edinburg to allow the enemy to overtake me if they wished, but they did not appear. We captured the orders and some correspondence of Captain Temple, copies of which are forwarded herewith. From these, it appears the enemy are encountering dissatisfaction and defection in several ways. The order for the execution of Pedro Garcia evinces considerable demoralization among the renegades. Six companies of Davis' regiment have embarked for New Orleans. The letter of Captain Temple shows the insubordination produced by the order to leave Texas.

I should have remained on the Arroyo Colorado could I have subsisted the men and horses. Between the Arroyo and Brownsville there is no grass. I shall move below within a few days.

I should do injustice to the dead were I to close this report without paying a tribute to the worth and memory of a gallant soldier. Capt. James Dunn was one of Jack Hays' rangers, and served his country long and faithfully. In every position he occupied he did his duty. He was brave, efficient, and reliable, and died nobly at the post of honor, in front of a headlong charge. The accompanying map was drawn by Major Blucher. His accurate knowledge of the country enabled him to render invaluable aid in determining the line of march. The intention to maneuver and get between the pickets and Brownsville was carried out.

I have the honor to be, your very obedient servant,

JOHN S. FORD,
Colonel, Commanding.

Brig. Gen. J. E. SLAUGHTER,
Chief of Staff, Houston, Tex.

JUNE 26, 1864.—Affair near the Sedalia and Marshall Road, Mo.

Report of Col. George H. Hall, Fourth Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST AND SECOND SUB-DISTRICTS,
Sedalia, Mo., June 26, 1864.

CAPTAIN: Capt. Joseph Parke, Company E, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, found 7 bushwhackers, wearing the red badge on their hats, in the heavy brush, about 1½ miles east of the road leading from Sedalia to Marshall, while he was with his men dismounted scouring the brush. It was north of the Blackwater. He

killed 3 of them and wounded 2, captured 6 horses and 1 mule, a Springfield rifle and musket, and 1 revolver. The enemy threw their revolvers away. The brush was so thick that Captain Parke says he could not find any except those mentioned. Jefferson Gregg, private Company E, Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, received a flesh wound on the right fore-arm. This was our only casualty. This happened this morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. HALL,
Col. Fourth Cav., Mo. S. M., Comdg 1st and 2d Sub-Dists.

Capt. JAMES H. STEGER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Warrensburg, Mo.

JUNE 27-28, 1864.—Affairs near Dunksburg, Mo.

Report of Capt. William B. Ballew, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

HDQRS. CO. K, SEVENTH MISSOURI STATE MILITIA CAV.,
Warrensburg, Mo., July 2, 1864.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the result of my scout, which returned to camp on the 1st July, 1864. On the evening of the 27th June, I received an order to take command of 50 men and proceed to Kirkpatrick's Mill, near the La Fayette County line, and when I arrived at Knobnoster I learned that there had been a squad of guerrillas near Dunksburg in the morning of that day, and some of the citizens had engaged them in fight, which resulted in the death of 2 citizens, to wit, McGuire and Bales. The rebels from Dunksburg left in a southward direction. I came on their trail about 3 miles south of Dunksburg, and trailed them through the timber, brush, and prairie for some 18 miles, and came on them about 3 p. m. on the evening of the 28th June. Had a sharp fight with them, which routed the guerrillas, and they broke for the headwaters of Big Muddy. William H. Crawford, a private of Company K, Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, when I ordered a charge upon the enemy, he being mounted on a swift horse, ran ahead of my command and shot 1 rebel dead, and then aimed to change his position and ran in front and into the rebels, and lost his life. As the rebels retreated they passed a widowed lady's house by the name of Cooper, and as they ran through the lane they shot 2 of her sons, killing 1 and wounding mortally, as I suppose, another. I ran them for about 2 miles across a prairie until they struck Muddy Creek timber. I then dismounted my command and deployed them as skirmishers, and followed them for some distance, capturing fragments of horse equipments, overcoats, letters, pictures of their friends, &c. In this connection it is proper to mention the coolness, bravery, and valuable service rendered my scout by my guide, William E. Chester, citizen of Knobnoster, and also Thomas Foster. I then returned to the battle-ground in search of my soldier who was killed, and after search of several hours concluded he was captured.

I then struck the trail again, and followed them to the west prong of Post Oak Creek, and lost the trail and gave up the chase, and returned to camp at Warrensburg, Mo., on the 1st July, 1864. Distance traveled, 150 miles.

As the rebels passed through the head of Clear Fork going north on the 20th June, 1864, they took one Peak, a citizen, for a guide, to guide them around Knobnoster, and they released Peak some 4 miles from the Knob, and Peak never reported the fact to the general commanding, or the death of McGuire and Bales might have been prevented. Such conduct by citizens pretending to be loyal to the United States, in my opinion, should be investigated. Also, I sent my guide with some 6 or 8 soldiers yesterday morning to the house of one Mr. or Mrs. Spencer, where there were some 4 grown daughters, and they were at breakfeast when the soldiers entered the house, and some of the soldiers asked them for bread and the woman told them that they could not get it; that their dogs needed it, and they should have it; that they would feed no Black Republicans; but said they had and would again feed their grub to bushwhackers when they wanted to, and even dared the soldiers to molest a thing about their premises; if so they would report them at Warrensburg. This family lives on Post Oak Creek, some 10 miles southwest of this place. My scouts all conducted themselves well, and Lieutenant Daily, of Company B, Seventh Missouri State Militia Cavalry, rendered me valuable assistance both on the march and in the fight.

I have the honor, colonel, to remain, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM B. BALLEW,
Capt. Co. K, Seventh Mo. State Militia Cav., Comdg. Scout.

Col. J. F. PHILLIPS,
Seventh Cavalry, Missouri State Militia

JUNE 27–29, 1864.—Scout from Brownsville, Ark.

Report of Col. Oliver Wood, Twenty-second Ohio Infantry.

BROWNSVILLE, *June* 29, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Captain Miller has just returned from a scout in the vicinity of Saint Charles, and reports the country full of bushwhackers and Confederate soldiers; did not discover more than 40 in any one band. There does not seem to be any organized force between the rivers, but if the men were organized in a body they could give us some trouble while so many of our forces are away. Fagan was reported at Monticello on Sunday, Marmaduke on Red Fork, and Cabell 15 miles from Monticello, toward the Arkansas River. All of their commands were preparing to move at that time; destination said to be Pine Bluff. Have sent scouts this evening toward Searcy, Peach Orchard Gap, and Springfield.

O. WOOD,
Colonel.

Capt. C. H. DYER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Little Rock.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Adair's (William Penn) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Cherokee.*

Alabama First Heavy Artillery. See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th (7th) Regiment.*

Allen's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*

Allen's (R. T. P.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*

Anderson's (Henry P.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*

Appleton's (Edward L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*

Arkansas Third Infantry, A. D. See *Union Troops, Colored, 56th Regiment.*

Arkansas Fourth Infantry, A. D. See *Union Troops, Colored, 57th Regiment.*

Arnim's (Franz W.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 3d Regiment.*

Baddeau's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Baddeau.*

Badger's (Algernon S.) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*

Bagby's (Arthur P.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*

Baldwin's (Homer H.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery G.*

Baldwin's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 83d Regiment.*

Ballew's (William B.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*

Barnes' (Ebenezer J.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 5th Regiment.*

Barnes' (James) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 21st Battery.*

Barnes' (John T. Mason) **Artillery.** See *Oliver J. Semmes' Artillery, post.*

Barris' (Sampson P.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 24th Regiment.*

Bass' (Thomas C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 20th Regiment.*

Bassford's (Abraham) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 14th Regiment.*

Battle's (N. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*

Baumer's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Baylor's (George Wythe) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Arizona Brigade.*

Beal's (George L.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 29th Regiment.*

Beardsley's (Ezra M.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 126th Regiment.*

Bechand's (Adolph) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Becht's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 5th Regiment.*

Beebe's (Thomas J.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment.*

Benavides' (Cristoval) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*

Benavides' (Refugio) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*

Benjamin's (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*

Bennett's (Maunsel) **Artillery.** See *R. M. Boone's Artillery, post.*

Benton's (Thomas H., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 29th Regiment.*

Benton's (Thomas O.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*

Bering's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 48th Regiment.*

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* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

Berney's (Joseph) **Cavalry.** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Bertram's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Berwick's (Oscar D.) **Artillery.** See *Saint Mary's Cannoneers, post.*
Bery's (Adolph) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Black's (Thomas G.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Blair's (William D.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 4th Regiment, State Militia.*
Blanchard's (Justus W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 162d Regiment.*
Blinn's (Charles D.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Blocher's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Blunt's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Blunt.*
Boone's (R. M.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Booth's (Lionel F.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th (7th) Regiment.*
Breese's (Sidney A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*
Brooks' (Iverson L.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Brown's (Albert H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 96th Regiment.*
Brown's (Alexander Don) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Brown's (George R.) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 9th Battery.*
Brown's (John G.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Brown's (Lyman W.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 11th Regiment.*
Brown's (R. R.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Buchanan's Guerrillas. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Buchanan.*
Buchel's (A.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Buehler's (Theodore E.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 67th Regiment.*
Burbridge's (John Q.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Burch's (Milton) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Burdett's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 77th Regiment.*
Burdsal's (Caleb S.) **Artillery.** See *William D. McLain's Artillery, post.*
Burford's (N. M.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Burris' (Milton) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, State Militia.*
Bush's (Louis) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Byrne's (James J.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Caldwell's Cavalry. See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion (State).*
Caldwell's (Joseph W.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Callahan's (Charles M.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
Calloway's (William P.) **Infantry.** See *California Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Cameron's (Hugh) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Campbell's (Albert H.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Campbell's (Alexander J.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment.*
Campbell's (L. A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment (Greene's).*
Campbell's (William T.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Carey's (Asa B.) **Cavalry.*** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Carmichael's (Eagleton) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Carr's (Gouverneur) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 165th Regiment.*
Carroll's (J. A.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*
Cassairt's (Jacob) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Cassidy's (James) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Casteel's (T. C.) **Cavalry.** See *A. S. Dobbin's Cavalry, post.*
Castle's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 11th Regiment.*
Cater's (T. A.) **Cavalry.** (Official designation not of record.) See *T. A. Cater.*
Chadwick's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 92d Regiment.*
Chapman's (G. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*
Chicago Mercantile Artillery. See *Charles G. Cooley's Artillery, post.*
Chisum's (Isham) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Partisan.*

* Temporarily commanding.

Chrysler's (Morgan H.) Cavalry. See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Veteran).*
Clark's (George W.) Infantry. See *Iowa Troops, 34th Regiment.*
Cobb's (John H.) Cavalry. See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment (Jeffers').*
Cockefair's (James M.) Artillery. See *Indiana Troops, 3d Battery.*
Cole's (Elisha) Artillery. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
Coleman's (Charles F.) Cavalry. See *Kansas Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Coleman's (W. O.) Partisans. See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Collins' (Richard A.) Artillery. See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Cone's (Pinckney S.) Artillery. See *Charles G. Cooley's Artillery, post.*
Connell's (John) Infantry. See *Iowa Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Conrady's (Howard C.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 173d Regiment.*
Cook's (Joseph J.) Heavy Artillery. See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Cooley's (Charles G.) Artillery. See *Illinois Troops.*
Copeland's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Copeland.*
Cornay's (Florian O.) Artillery. See *Saint Mary's Cannoneers, post.*
Corps d'Afrique, Third Engineers. See *Union Troops, Colored, 97th Regiment, Infantry.*
Corps d'Afrique, Fifth Engineers. See *Union Troops, Colored, 99th Regiment, Infantry.*
Corps d'Afrique, First Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 73d Regiment.*
Corps d'Afrique, Third Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 75th Regiment.*
Corps d'Afrique, Twelfth Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 84th Regiment.*
Corps d'Afrique, Twentieth Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 91st Regiment.*
Corps d'Afrique, Twenty-second Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 92d Regiment.*
Corrin's (James H.) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 84th Regiment.*
Cortright's (J. S.) Artillery. See *W. M. Hughey's Artillery, post.*
Cosgrove's (John) Cavalry. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Cowan's (John) Infantry. See *Kentucky Troops, Union, 19th Regiment.*
Cowdrey's (Samuel) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 162d Regiment.*
Crabtree's (Benjamin F.) Cavalry. See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment (Greene's).*
Crandall's (Eli J.) Infantry. See *Linn County Enrolled Militia, post.*
Crane's (Leroy A.) Infantry. See *Iowa Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Craven's (Hervey) Infantry. See *Indiana Troops, 89th Regiment.*
Crawford's (Samuel J.) Infantry. See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment, Colored.*
Crawford's (William A.) Cavalry. See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Crebs' (John M.) Infantry. See *Illinois Troops, 87th Regiment.*
Creitz's (William F.) Artillery.* See *William F. Creitz.*
Crescent Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Crescent Infantry. See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
Creuzbaur's (Edmund) Artillery. See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Crocker's (Benjamin F.) Cavalry. See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Cumming's (P. W. H.) Infantry. See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment (Lewis').*
Cummins' (William T.) Infantry. See *Kentucky Troops, Union, 19th Regiment.*
Curran's (Sterrit M.) Cavalry. See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Currie's (Leonard D. H.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 133d Regiment.*
Curtis' (Oscar H.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 114th Regiment.*
Daly's (Andrew) Cavalry. See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Daniel's (James M.) Artillery. See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Davidson's (George B.) Cavalry. See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Davie's (James M.) Infantry. See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 36th Regiment.*
Davis' Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Davis.*

* Improvised.

Davis' (Edmund J.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Davis' (Edwin P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 153d Regiment.*
Davis' (George R.) **Cavalry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Davis' (Hasbrouck) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Davis' (William) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Dawson's (C. L.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Dawson's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, State Militia.*
Debray's (X. B.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
De Camp's (Daniel) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 130th Regiment.*
De Hart's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 46th Regiment.*
De Morse's (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*
Dengler's (Adolph) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 43d Regiment.*
Dillon's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Dobbin's (A. S.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Dockery's (Thomas P.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Dodd's (Theodore H.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Doran's (Felix W.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Downing's (Jacob) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Drake's (Francis M.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Draper's (Daniel M.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 9th Regiment, State Militia.*
Duncan's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Dunn's (Clark) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Dunscomb's (Leander S.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Dyer's (Isaac) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Eads' (James D.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, State Militia.*
Eayre's (George S.) **Artillery.** See *William D. McLain's Artillery, post.*
Eberhart's (Gustavus A.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Edgar's (William) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Elliott's (Benjamin) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
Ellis' (Asa A.) **Cavalry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Ellison's (Jesse) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment (Kitchen's).*
Emerson's (Charles S.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 29th Regiment.*
Espey's (Hugh) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 2d Battery.*
Etter's (Chambers B.) **Artillery.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Evans' (G. W.) **Cavalry.** (Official designation not of record.) See *G. W. Evans.*
Everett's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Ewing's (James A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, State Militia.*
Faries' (Thomas A.) **Artillery.** See *Pelican Artillery, post.*
Faulkner's (A. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment (Harrison's).*
Fayth's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment (Gordon's).*
Fessenden's (Francis) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 30th Regiment.*
Fischer's (Waldemar) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 5th Regiment, State Militia.*
Fisk's (Julius G.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Fiske's (William O.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Fitzgerald's (William J.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Fitzhugh's (William) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Flanders' (George A.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Flournoy's (George) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Folsom's (Simpson W.) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Choctaw.*
Fontaine's (Henry B.) **Artillery.** See *M. V. McMahan's Artillery, post.*
Ford's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *Colorado Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Fordham's (Elbert H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 31st Regiment.*
Foreman's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Indian Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, Home Guards.*
Forrester's (Henry) **Artillery.** See *Roswell W. Lee's Artillery, post.*
Foster's (Everett W.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Foster's (Jacob T.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 1st Battery.*
Foster's (James P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 128th Regiment.*
Foster's (Melville U.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment, State Militia.*
Foust's (Joseph) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
Fox's (George W.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 26th Battery.*
Francis' (Richard W.) **Cavalry.** See *Headquarters Troops, Department of the Gulf, post.*
Freeman's (Thomas R.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Frisbie's (Henry N.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 92d Regiment.*
Fristoe's (E. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Fuller's (Henry W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 75th Regiment.*
Fyan's (Robert W.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 24th Regiment.*
Gaither's (B.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 27th Regiment.*
Gallagher's (Andrew P.) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Galloway's (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Gano's (Frank M.) **Cavalry.** See *William G. Welch's Cavalry, post.*
Garrett's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Garrison's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Gaudet's (Oscar) **Artillery.** See *Pelican Artillery, post.*
Gauen's (Jacob E.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Gaul's (Edward L.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 159th Regiment.*
Geiger's (Washington F.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Gibbons' (William C.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 1st Regiment, Colored.*
Gibson's Company. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Gibson.*
Gibson's (Hiram D.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 33d Regiment.*
Giddings' (D. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
Giddings' (George H.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Gilbert's (James I.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Gillett's (L. E.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Ginn's (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 3d Battery.*
Good's (Tilghman H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Gordon's (A.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Gordon's (B. Frank) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Gould's (N. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 23d Regiment.*
Gravely's (Joseph J.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Gray's (Edmund B.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Green's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 29th Regiment.*
Greene's (Colton) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Greene's (Joseph E.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Grinder's (Eli D.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Grinsted's (H. L.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*
Gunning's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See *Major Gunning.*
Gunter's (Thomas M.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
Hackett's (Jeremiah) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Haines' (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 2d Battery.*
Haldeman's (Horace) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Hall's (George H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 4th Regiment, State Militia.*
Hamilton's (Augustus H.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Hancock's (Bradford) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 29th Regiment.*
Hardeman's (W. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*

Hardy's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 19th (Dawson's) and 24th Regiments.*

Harmount's (George A.) **Engineers.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 97th Regiment, Infantry.*

Harper's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 2d Battery.*

Harrell's (John M.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Harris' (Simon) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment (Moore's).*

Harris' (S. S.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*

Harrison's (M. La Rue) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*

Haskin's (William L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*

Hayes' (Josiah E.) **Infantry.** See *Kansas Troops, 12th Regiment.*

Head's (J. W.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*

Headlee's (Samuel W.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment, Provisional Enrolled Militia.*

Headquarters Troops, Department of the Gulf, Cavalry. See *Louisiana Troops, Union.*

Healy's (Robert W.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 58th Regiment.*

Heath's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 33d Regiment.*

Hebard's (George T.) **Artillery.** See *Vermont Troops, 1st Battery.*

Henderson's (Robert) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 6th Regiment.*

Henry's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 89th Regiment.*

Herbert's (P. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*

Hesseltine's (Frank S.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Hicks' (William) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*

Higdon's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*

Higgenbotham's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 26th Regiment, Enrolled Militia.*

Hildreth's (James M.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 16th Regiment.*

Hill's (John F.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*

Hiller's (Hiram M.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, State Militia.*

Hinkle's (Anthony) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*

Hinkle's (William S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Hodsdon's (Alfred) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*

Howard's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 27th Regiment.*

Hoyt's (George H.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 15th Regiment.*

Hoyt's (James J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 156th Regiment.*

Hubbard's (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 30th Regiment.*

Hudson's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Hudson.*

Hughes' (Eli) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment, State Militia.*

Hughey's (W. M.) **Artillery.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*

Huiskamp's (Herman J.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*

Human's (William C.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*

Hume's (P. G.) **Artillery.** See *Valverde Artillery, post.*

Humphrey's (Benjamin T.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 7th Regiment.*

Humphrey's (Thomas W.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 95th Regiment.*

Hunter's (De Witt C.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*

Hunter's (Joseph R. C.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 12th Regiment.*

Hutton's (T. H.) **Artillery.** See *Crescent Artillery, ante.*

Inwood's (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 165th Regiment.*

Irwin's (Albert A.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*

Jacobs' (Ferd. R.) **Infantry.** See *Indian Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Home Guards.*

Jacoby's (Lawrence) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Battery.*

Jeffers' (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*

Jefferson's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 8th Regiment.*

Jenkins' (Wilton A.) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 5th Regiment.*

John's (Abraham) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Johns' (Abijah) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, State Militia.*
Jones' (Samuel B.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 78th Regiment.*
Jones' (Warren C.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Jumper's (John) **Indians.** See *Indian Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Seminole.*
Kauffman's (Albert B.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 11th Regiment.*
Kaufman's (Solomon) **Artillery.** See *Indian Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, Home Guards.**
Keeler's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Kehoe's (Miles) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Keigwin's (James) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Kelly's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 114th Regiment.*
Kelso's (John R.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment, State Militia.*
Kershner's (Philip) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 16th Regiment.*
King's (E. T.) **Artillery.** See *Siege Artillery, post.*
King's (Ezra) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Kinney's (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 119th Regiment.*
Kinsey's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 161st Regiment.*
Kirby's (Byron) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Kirby's (William A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*
Kitchen's (Solomon G.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Kittredge's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Klauss' (Martin) **Artillery.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Battery.*
Krez's (Conrad) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Krumbhaar's (W. Butler) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Land's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 87th Regiment.*
Lane's (J. L.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Lane's (W. P.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Partisans.*
Lawler's (Edward) **Cavalry.** See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Lawther's (Robert R.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*
Lee's (Roswell W.) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
Lennon's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Leonard's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 96th Regiment.*
Lesueur's (A. A.) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Confederate.*
Lewis' (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 176th Regiment.*
Likens' (J. B.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 35th Regiment.*
Lindsey's (Joseph W.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Linn County Enrolled Militia. See *Missouri Troops, Union.*
Little's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See *Captain Little.*
Little's (Joseph H.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, State Militia.*
Lockhart's (John O.) **Artillery.** See *Samuel T. Ruffner's Artillery, post.*
Looscan's (Michael) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Louisiana Seventh Infantry, A. D. See *Union Troops, Colored, 64th Regiment.*
Love's (George M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 116th Regiment.*
Love's (Joseph B.) **Cavalry.** See *Thomas R. Freeman's Cavalry, ante.*
Lovejoy's (George F.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Luckett's (P. N.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Lynch's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Lynde's (Edward) **Cavalry.** See *Kansas Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Lyne's (W. H.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate, 6th Battery.*
Lyon's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Lyon.*
McCabe's (Francis) **Cavalry.** See *New Mexico Troops, 1st Regiment.*
McCaleb's (Hubert A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored 5th (6th) Regiment.*

*Howitzer battery attached to.

McCarthey's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 175th Regiment.*
McCauley's (Mark) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
McClure's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 47th Regiment.*
McCormick's (Andrew J.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 77th Regiment.*
McFerran's (James) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, State Militia.*
McIntyre's (David C.) **Cavalry.** See *Iowa Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Mackey's (Cyrus H.) **Infantry.** See *Iowa Troops, 33d Regiment.*
McLain's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Colorado Troops.*
McLaughlin's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 47th Regiment.*
McMahan's (M. V.) **Artillery.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate.*
McMurtrey's (E. L.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Confederate.*
McNeill's (A. J.) **Cavalry.** See *Louisiana Troops, Confederate.*
McNeill's (H. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
McNelly's (L. H.) **Cavalry.** (Official designation not of record.) See *L. H. McNelly.*
McPhaill's (H. A.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Madison's (George T.) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Arizona Brigade.*
Majors' (Thomas J.) **Cavalry.** See *Nebraska Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Manring's (Maschil) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 56th Regiment.*
Mansfield's (Carlos M. G.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Marks' (Samuel B.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Marr's (James) **Artillery.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Battery K.*
Marsh's (Benjamin F., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Martin's (L. M) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment, Partisans.*
Mason's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 77th Regiment.*
Matthews' (Luther J.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Mattson's (Hans) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Mayo's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Mayo.*
Melton's (James A.) **Cavalry.** See *Arkansas Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Mercantile Artillery. See *Charles G. Cooley's Artillery, ante.*
Merriam's (Jonathan) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 117th Regiment.*
Merrill's Horse. See *Missouri Troops, Union, 2d Regiment, Cavalry.*
Milks' (Henry B.) **Cavalry.** See *Missouri Troops, Union, 3d Regiment, State Militia.*
Miller's (Crill) **Cavalry.** See *Texas Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Partisan.*
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